



Iowa Legislative Report
83rd Iowa General Assembly
IA Speech-Language-Hearing Assn
Week 4: February 2 – February 6, 2009
Paula Feltner & Mike Heller, Lobbyists

Week Four of the session was marked by lengthy caucuses, lots of subcommittee meetings, and ever-continuing budget discussions. Legislators are approaching the first legislative funnel deadline. **February 20th** is the last day for individual legislators to request bill drafts. **March 13th** is the final date for most Senate bills to be voted out of committee in the Senate and House bills out of House committees. This schedule is dictated by the “funnel system”, a series of in both chambers designed to bring the legislature to adjournment around the time that the legislators’ per diem expense reimbursement expires. That day will be the **110th** day of the session which falls on **May 1st this year**. Usually adjournment occurs very close to the date that the per diem expires.

The prevailing theme this week was concentration on labor issues. Many hours were spent in caucus in both chambers. The Senate is working on legislation to give employees the ability to have a greater choice in their doctor in workers compensation cases. The House is focusing on a prevailing wage proposal, but the Chair of the House Labor Committee indicated that he also anticipated legislation on “Fair Share” and “Expanded Scope” of negotiating subjects for public employees. These issues are sure to increase partisan tensions in what has already been a tense year. It is also not clear where the Governor will be on the labor issues. As you may recall, he vetoed the fair share legislation last year.

In terms of our issues, the big issues will of course be funding and the health bill, Senate File 48 introduced by Senator Jack Hatch. There have been two meetings on the bill this week with ten more scheduled. It is not clear which parts of the bill will pass at the time. **Senate File 48:**

- Allows employees, public officials and retired employees of a non-state public employer, and employees of a nonprofit employer, or small employer to enroll in the state employee health care plan.
- Establishes an Iowa Choice Insurance Exchange under the Insurance Division as a nonprofit corporation that will develop a comprehensive health care coverage plan that would be available to all Iowans. Design and implement a private health care coverage program called Iowa Choice. A revised Iowa Choice health care coverage advisory council will become the board of the exchange, appointed by the Governor, confirmed by Senate.
- Exempts from state income tax the health benefits coverage of a non-qualified tax dependent. The amendment would be retroactive to January 1, 2009. Allows adult children not currently on their parent’s coverage who are under 25 to re-enroll if otherwise eligible.

- Requires the Department of Human Services to provide state-only funded medical assistance or *hawk-i* coverage, as appropriate, to individuals under 19 years of age who meet income eligibility requirements under the respective program.
- Amends the income tax provision for reporting of a dependent child's health care coverage status to require, beginning with returns for tax year 2009, that the filer must indicate whether each dependent child has health care coverage. If the dependent child does not have health care coverage and the income of the taxpayer's tax return does not exceed the highest level of income eligibility standard for Medicaid or *hawk-i*, the Department of Revenue is required to send a notice to the taxpayer that the child may be eligible for these programs and provide information on how to enroll. The taxpayer is then required to submit an application for the appropriate program within 90 days.
- Requires coverage under the Medicaid of a pregnant woman with a family income of up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level beginning July 1. Makes other changes related to access and retention of persons on Medicaid and *hawk-i*.
- Expands the volunteer health care provider program to include health care provider offices. A health care provider office providing free care under this program is considered a state agency and would receive immunity protections under this program. Employees working in offices that are registered with the program would also receive immunity protections since they would be considered an employee of the state for the purposes of this chapter.
- Establish a health care workforce support initiative, including a health care workforce shortage fund. This includes establishment of a Medical Residency Training Grants Program, Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program, Nurse Educator Forgivable Loan Program, and a Nursing Faculty Fellowship Program. The bill also establishes a Workforce Shortage Advisory Council that includes IDPH as a member to provide oversight to and coordination of the programs.
- Requires IDPH to establish and administer an evidence-based prescription drug education program, includes provisions relating to medication therapy management and establishes a medication therapy management advisory committee. The bill also prohibits gifts to health care practitioners and establishes disclosure requirements for exempted gifts, provisions to safeguard the confidentiality of prescribing information, and adds to the current regulation of pharmacy benefits managers by requiring they disclose revenues received from pharmaceutical manufacturers or labelers.
- Directs IDPH to adopt rules to direct hospitals to submit data to the Iowa Healthcare Collaborative regarding inpatient, outpatient, and ambulatory information from hospitals.
The Collaborative is to develop a plan for the collection, analysis, and publishing of clinical data from physicians and health care providers other than hospitals. The Collaborative is also directed to provide support and coordination to a number of health care reform councils.

Below are the bills we are following/working on for you. The bills are "hotlinked" if you would like to view the entire bill. If you would like to totally remove any bills, please let us know. **Have a great weekend and take advantage of any opportunities to discuss our issues with legislators. Check to see if there is a**

forum in your area. Call your representative and senator and ask to be on his/her newsletter distribution list. Better yet, arrange to visit with your legislator personally. Remember, legislators are home on Friday and Saturday every weekend.

[Senate File 48](#)

A bill for an act relating to health care, health care providers, and health care coverage, providing for appropriations, providing penalties, and providing retroactive and other effective dates.

Jan. 28 09 Subcommittee, Hatch, Bolkcom, and Seymour. [S.J. 164](#).

Sponsored by Hatch.

[Senate File 38](#)

A bill for an act relating to transfer procedures for and compensation of health care providers not participating in IowaCare.

Jan. 27 09 Subcommittee, Wilhelm, Ragan, and Seymour. [S.J. 148](#).

Sponsored by Ragan, Warnstadt, Beall, Wilhelm, Olive, Schoenjahn, Heckroth, Stewar

[Senate File 26](#)

A bill for an act relating to hospital discounts to uninsured patients, and providing civil penalties.

Jan. 26 09 Subcommittee, Bolkcom, Hatch, and Seymour. [S.J. 129](#).

Sponsored by Bolkcom and Hatch.

[Senate File 11](#)

A bill for an act relating to establishing a process for reimbursement of nonparticipating providers for eligible services provided to IowaCare program members.

Jan. 14 09 Subcommittee, Hatch, Bolkcom, and Johnson. [S.J. 83](#).

Sponsored by Johnson.

Senate Study Bill 1094

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to the admissibility of medical records and bills in civil cases.01/26/09
Subcommittee: Kreiman, Hancock, Kettering

LSB 1738SC [Senate Study Bill 1094](#)

LSB 1738HC [House Study Bill 100](#)

Senate Study Bill 1092

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act to allow medical or osteopathic physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners to form limited liability companies or professional corporations. 01/26/09 Subcommittee: Dotzler, Schmitz, Hartsuch

LSB 1781SC [Senate Study Bill 1092](#)

Senate Study Bill 1072

Jan. 14 09 A study bill for an act relating to health-related activities and regulation by the department of public health and making penalties applicable.01/21/09 Subcommittee: Wilhelm, Schmitz, Johnson

LSB 1142DP [Senate Study Bill 1072](#)

LSB 1142DP [House Study Bill 50](#)

[House File 25](#)

A bill for an act relating to the provision of certain information for insureds regarding external review of health care coverage decisions.

Jan. 22 09 Subcommittee, T. Olson, Kressig, and Sorenson. [H.J. 142](#).

Sponsored by Hunter.

[House File 16](#)

A bill for an act providing for a worker shortage loan forgiveness program.

Jan. 22 09 Subcommittee, Kelley, Koester, and Steckman. [H.J. 141](#).

Sponsored by Hunter.

House Study Bill 50

Jan. 22 09 A study bill relating to health-related activities and regulation by the department of public health and making penalties applicable. 1-21-09 Subcommittee assigned, Thede, T. Olson, and Soderberg. H.J. 121.

LSB 1142DP [Senate Study Bill 1072](#)

LSB 1142DP [House Study Bill 50](#)

Education bills

[Senate File 81](#)

A bill for an act relating to assisting schools to recover from disaster by changing the approval method for transfers of emergency fund moneys, by modifying certain funding provisions to relate to disaster recovery, and by allowing area education agency boards greater authority to purchase and lease-purchase property. (Formerly [SSB 1013](#).)

Jan. 29 09 Committee report, approving bill. [S.J. 192](#).

Sponsored by Education.

[Senate File 76](#)

A bill for an act relating to early school starts and providing effective and

applicability dates.

Feb. 04 09 Subcommittee, Dvorsky, Feenstra, and Quirmbach. [S.J. 230](#).

Sponsored by Johnson, Kettering, Kapucian, Reynolds, Ward, McKinley, Boettger, Wie

[Senate File 75](#)

A bill for an act prohibiting certain individuals from acting as agents for school textbooks or school supplies and making a penalty applicable.

Feb. 04 09 Subcommittee, Dvorsky, Johnson, and Quirmbach. [S.J. 230](#).

Sponsored by Johnson and Hahn.

[Senate File 72](#)

A bill for an act relating to the history requirements secondary school students must meet as a condition of graduation.

Jan. 29 09 Subcommittee, Appel, Boettger, and Sodders. [S.J. 191](#).

Sponsored by Boettger.

[Senate File 17](#)

A bill for an act relating to the compulsory school attendance age and providing effective dates.

Jan. 15 09 Subcommittee, Quirmbach, Dvorsky, and McKinley. [S.J. 98](#).

Sponsored by Dandekar, Gronstal, Beall, Danielson, Hatch, Courtney, Kibbie, Appel,

[Senate File 9](#)

A bill for an act relating to the disposition of school property and providing an effective date.

Feb. 04 09 Message from Senate. [H.J. 263](#).

Sponsored by Ragan.

Senate Study Bill 1016

Feb. 04 09 A study bill for an act relating to the establishment and implementation of a statewide writing assessment for public school students in grades three, six, and ten. 01/13/09
Subcommittee:Schoenjahn, Schmitz,Johnson

LSB 1261XD [Senate Study Bill 1016](#)

LSB 1261XD [House Study Bill 24](#)

LSB 1261XD [House Study Bill 39](#)

Senate Study Bill 1015

Feb. 04 09 A study bill for an act relating to certain reporting requirements or actions required of the department of

education, school districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and community colleges. 01/13/09
Subcommittee:Heckroth, Wilhelm, McKinley

LSB 1232XD [Senate Study Bill 1015](#)

LSB 1232XD [House Study Bill 26](#)

Senate Study Bill 1014

Feb. 04 09 A study bill for an act providing for the establishment of a school district innovation grant program.01/13/09
Subcommittee:Appel,Schoenjahn, Boettger

LSB 1299XD [Senate Study Bill 1014](#)

LSB 1299XD [House Study Bill 25](#)

Senate Study Bill 1012

Feb. 04 09 A study bill for an act relating to the compulsory school attendance age and providing effective dates. 01/13/09
Subcommittee:Quirnbach, Dvorsky,McKinley

LSB 1224XD [Senate Study Bill 1012](#)

LSB 1224XD [House Study Bill 38](#)

Senate Study Bill 1011

Feb. 04 09 A study bill for an act relating to the duties and operations of the department of education and local school boards.
01/13/09 Subcommittee: Schmitz,Kreiman,Boettger

LSB 1347XD [Senate Study Bill 1011](#)

LSB 1347XD [House Study Bill 22](#)

Senate Study Bill 1010

Feb. 04 09 A study bill for an act allowing school districts to count foreign exchange pupils in certified enrollment counts for budget and funding purposes.01/13/09
Subcommittee:Beall,Quirnbach,Hamerlinck

LSB 1255XD [Senate Study Bill 1010](#)

LSB 1255XD [House Study Bill 41](#)

Senate Study Bill 1009

Feb. 04 09 A study bill for an act relating to the use of certain levy funds for school transportation and utility expenses. 01/13/09
Subcommittee: Dvorsky,Heckroth,Feenstra

LSB 1256XD [Senate Study Bill 1009](#)

LSB 1256XD [House Study Bill 40](#)

Senate Study Bill 1008

Feb. 04 09 A study bill for an act relating to the duties and operations of library districts. 01/13/09
Subcommittee: Wilhelm, Appel, Hamerlinck

LSB 1590XD [Senate Study Bill 1008](#)

LSB 1590XD [House Study Bill 27](#)

[House File 221](#)

A bill for an act exempting the instructional support property tax levy of a school district from being collected as part of the incremental taxes paid to a municipality for an urban renewal area and providing for the Act's applicability.

Feb. 05 09 Introduced, referred to Ways & Means. [H.J. 278](#).

Sponsored by Schueller.

[House File 214](#)

A bill for an act establishing the interstate compact on educational opportunity for military children and providing an effective date. (Formerly [HF 29](#))

Feb. 05 09 Introduced, placed on calendar. [H.J. 275](#).

Sponsored by Veterans Affairs.

[House File 166](#)

A bill for an act providing for the disposition of school property and providing an effective date.

Feb. 05 09 Subcommittee, Mascher, Koester, and Palmer. [H.J. 281](#).

Sponsored by Kuhn.

[House File 163](#)

A bill for an act allowing receiving school districts to send school vehicles into the district of residence to transport an open-enrolled pupil under certain circumstances.

Feb. 03 09 Subcommittee, Ficken, Palmer, and Tymeson. [H.J. 257](#).

Sponsored by Tymeson.

[House File 161](#)

A bill for an act prohibiting certain individuals from acting as agents for school textbooks or school supplies and making a penalty applicable.

Feb. 03 09 Subcommittee, Willems, Kelley, and Sweeney. [H.J. 257](#).

Sponsored by Kaufmann.

[House File 158](#)

A bill for an act providing for the establishment of a permanent substitute teacher license by the board of educational examiners.

Feb. 03 09 Subcommittee, Thede, Mascher, and Schulte. [H.J. 257](#).

Sponsored by Kaufmann.

[House File 156](#)

A bill for an act providing an appropriation for a pilot project to implement a child care center that operates twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.

Jan. 29 09 Introduced, referred to Appropriations. [H.J. 211](#).

Sponsored by Reichert.

[House File 129](#)

A bill for an act relating to requirements for the promotion of students from kindergarten through grade twelve based on grade-level proficiency in reading and mathematics.

Feb. 02 09 Subcommittee, Abdul-Samad, Koester, and Wendt. [H.J. 240](#).

Sponsored by Abdul-Samad.

[House File 119](#)

A bill for an act limiting the school aid formula to provide funding for four years of high school per student.

Feb. 02 09 Subcommittee, Ficken, Tymeson, and Willems. [H.J. 240](#).

Sponsored by Tymeson.

[House File 100](#)

A bill for an act providing exceptions to the age of admission to kindergarten.

Feb. 02 09 Subcommittee, Steckman, Cownie, and Thede. [H.J. 240](#).

Sponsored by Struyk, Windschitl, Forristall, Pettengill, Schultz, Alons, Huser, Me

[House File 94](#)

A bill for an act requiring the state board of education to define student proficiency in mathematics and reading.

Jan. 28 09 Subcommittee, Cohoon, Steckman, and Tymeson. [H.J. 200](#).

Sponsored by Tymeson.

[House File 91](#)

A bill for an act relating to the suspension of students who commit assault.

Jan. 28 09 Subcommittee, Ficken, Abdul-Samad, and May. [H.J. 200](#).

Sponsored by Tymeson.

[House File 75](#)

A bill for an act relating to the practitioner license renewal requirements adopted by the board of educational examiners.

Jan. 28 09 Subcommittee, Winckler, Koester, and Mascher. [H.J. 200.](#)

Sponsored by Lukan.

[House File 71](#)

A bill for an act authorizing the school budget review committee to provide transportation assistance to certain school districts and providing an appropriation.

Jan. 27 09 Subcommittee reassigned, Winckler, May, and Wendt. [H.J. 184.](#)

Sponsored by Heaton.

[House File 40](#)

A bill for an act relating to the compulsory school attendance age and providing effective dates.

Jan. 27 09 Subcommittee reassigned, Winckler, Cownie, and Ford. [H.J. 183.](#)

Sponsored by Heddens, Hunter, Abdul-Samad, Ford, Whitead, Wendt, Dolecheck, Gaskil

[House File 31](#)

A bill for an act relating to textbooks and applicable computer hardware adopted for use by school districts and provided to public and accredited nonpublic school students.

Jan. 28 09 Subcommittee, Cohoon, Abdul-Samad, and Sweeney. [H.J. 199.](#)

Sponsored by Lukan.

[House File 26](#)

A bill for an act relating to the minimum hours of instructional school time in a school year for grades one through twelve for school districts, charter schools, and accredited nonpublic schools, and providing an effective date.

Jan. 22 09 Subcommittee, Wendt, Dolecheck, and Willems. [H.J. 142.](#)

Sponsored by Tjepkes.

[House File 14](#)

A bill for an act repealing the Iowa English language reaffirmation Act.

Jan. 21 09 Subcommittee, Lensing, Isenhardt, and Rants. [H.J. 119.](#)

Sponsored by Hunter.

House Study Bill 127

Jan. 21 09 A study bill for establishing a facility schools division within the department of education and a facility schools board; providing for the approval, administration, and funding of facility schools; and providing for educational services for

children in out-of-home placement. 2-03-09 Subcommittee assigned, Wendt, Ficken, and Schulte. H.J. 257.

LSB 1146HC [House Study Bill 127](#)

House Study Bill 126

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the election for approval of the physical plant and equipment levy and providing an effective date. 2-03-09 Subcommittee assigned, Wendt, Bukta, and Dolecheck. H.J. 257.

LSB 1539HC [House Study Bill 126](#)

House Study Bill 41

Jan. 21 09 A study bill for allowing school districts to count foreign exchange pupils in certified enrollment counts for budget and funding purposes. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Heddens, Cownie, and Wendt. H.J. 109. 1-27-09 Subcommittee reassigned, Winckler, Cownie, and Wendt. H.J. 185.

LSB 1255XD [Senate Study Bill 1010](#)

LSB 1255XD [House Study Bill 41](#)

House Study Bill 40

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the use of certain levy funds for school transportation and utility expenses. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Heddens, Dolecheck, and Mascher. H.J. 109. 1-27-09 Subcommittee reassigned, Winckler, Dolecheck, and Mascher. H.J. 185.

LSB 1256XD [Senate Study Bill 1009](#)

LSB 1256XD [House Study Bill 40](#)

House Study Bill 39

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the establishment and implementation of a statewide writing assessment for public school students in grades three, six, and ten.

LSB 1261XD [Senate Study Bill 1016](#)

LSB 1261XD [House Study Bill 24](#)

LSB 1261XD [House Study Bill 39](#)

House Study Bill 38

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the compulsory school attendance age and providing effective dates. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Ford, Cownie, and Heddens. H.J. 109. 1-27-09 Subcommittee reassigned, Ford, Cownie, and Winckler. H.J.

185.

LSB 1224XD [Senate Study Bill 1012](#)

LSB 1224XD [House Study Bill 38](#)

House Study Bill 27

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the duties and operations of library districts. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Bukta, Schulte, and Thede. H.J. 109.

LSB 1590XD [Senate Study Bill 1008](#)

LSB 1590XD [House Study Bill 27](#)

House Study Bill 26

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to certain reporting requirements or actions required of the department of education, school districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and community colleges. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Kelley, Ficken, and Sweeney. H.J. 109.

LSB 1232XD [Senate Study Bill 1015](#)

LSB 1232XD [House Study Bill 26](#)

House Study Bill 25

Jan. 21 09 A study bill for providing for the establishment of a school district innovation grant program. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Abdul-Samad, Ficken, and L. Miller. H.J. 109.

LSB 1299XD [Senate Study Bill 1014](#)

LSB 1299XD [House Study Bill 25](#)

House Study Bill 24

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the establishment and implementation of a statewide writing assessment for public school students in grades three, six, and ten. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Abdul-Samad, Ficken, and L. Miller. H.J. 109.

LSB 1261XD [Senate Study Bill 1016](#)

LSB 1261XD [House Study Bill 24](#)

LSB 1261XD [House Study Bill 39](#)

House Study Bill 22

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the duties and operations of the department of education and local school boards. 1-20-09 Subcommittee assigned, Cohoon, Dolecheck, and Steckman. H.J. 108.

LSB 1347XD [Senate Study Bill 1011](#)

LSB 1347XD [House Study Bill 22](#)

House Study Bill 4

Jan. 21 09 A study bill relating to the disposition of school property and providing an effective date. 1-14-09 Subcommittee assigned, Mascher, Koester, and Palmer. H.J. 78.

LSB 1538HC [House Study Bill 4](#)

LSB 1538SS [Senate File 9](#)

[Senate File 9](#)

A bill for an act relating to the disposition of school property and providing an effective date.

Feb. 04 09 Message from Senate. [H.J. 263](#).

Sponsored by Ragan.