

## You need to know

- Your outreach is needed immediately on SF 587. See below for details.
- Community Project Funding may be available through the federal government. Read more about what this means for your city, how to apply and the timeframe in which to do so at the [National League of Cities website](#).
- The League will be updating [this page](#) as details and guidance for administering the American Rescue Plan become available.

### [SF 587](#) | **Backfill Phase-Out, Elderly Property Tax Credit, Mental Health Funding**

- Contact your [Iowa Representative](#) now. The Iowa League of Cities is registered in opposition due to its removal of the backfill and unfunded mandates on cities.
- The backfill was created to provide direct property tax relief and still serves this function today. The removal of the backfill is not connected to a decrease or removal of city expenditures. Therefore, to continue to fund essential services at status quo levels, these dollars will be required to be made up at the local level through property taxes or other local revenues.
- The burden of this shift from state dollars to property tax dollars will not be distributed evenly. On average, residential property taxes will bear 65% of the increase, commercial bearing 29% of the increase and industrial bearing 4%.
- The Elderly Property Tax Credit that currently exists is solely funded by the state. The additional credit created within SF 587 should similarly be funded by the state or be removed from the legislation.
- This legislation contains other provisions, including tax shifts for DART, mental health funding and preservation tax credits. You are encouraged to read the bill and reach out to the League's [Legislative Staff](#) with any questions or for clarification.
- Passed out of the Senate and will be eligible for consideration by the House.

### [SF 476](#) | **Public Safety Omnibus**

- Increases public safety benefits through a payout of accrued sick leave upon retirement. Codifies qualified immunity. Decreases state funding to cities that attempt to not enforce state law. Increases penalties for assault or harassment of public safety officers.
- This bill does contain beneficial liability and public safety protections.
- The League is registered undecided and will be working to mitigate the bill's cost increases and the removal of the city's local control.

### [HF 849](#) | **Tax Increment Finance (TIF)**

- Alters the use of TIF for the purpose of mitigating slum and blight. Requires the increment for any perpetual TIF to be reset in 20 years.
- Caps all future TIF at 20 years in duration.
- Eligible to be voted on in the House.
- The League is registered in opposition.

### [HF 797](#) | **MFPRSI (411) Benefit Increase**

- Provides increased benefits for MFPRSI public safety officers that have the potential to significantly impact medical costs to cities.
- Eligible to be voted on by the full Senate.
- The League is registered in opposition.

## Legislation to the Governor

[HF 761](#) | Firefighter grants

Communication with your legislators is crucial to impacting policy in the statehouse. Take advantage of the local legislative forums listed below. Additionally, you can contact your legislative directly.

Contact Your Legislator

## Legislative Forums

April 10

- [Creston Legislative Coffee-virtual](#)
- [Des Moines Coffee with Legislators-virtual](#)
- [Ames & Story County Legislative Wake-Up-virtual](#)
- [Altoona Coffee Chat-virtual](#)
- [Ottumwa Legislative Forum](#)
- [Carroll Legislative Forum-virtual](#)
- [Des Moines Legislative Forum-virtual](#)

April 12

- [Marti's Weekly Monday Morning Coffee-virtual](#)

April 14

- [Mason City Town Hall-virtual](#)

