

You need to know

- [First Legislative Funnel](#) is Friday, March 5.
- Upcoming webinar, Friday, March 5 on Infrastructure Investment for the Future: presenters from the U.S. Department of Transportation. [Register by clicking here.](#)
- The March [Revenue Estimating Conference](#) meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 19, at 11 a.m.

SF 479 & HSB 230 | Mandated Expenditures on Public Safety

- This bill interjects the State Executive Branch into local budgetary decisions and is an overreach of state authority. Prohibits local entities from receiving state funds if the entity has reduced the law enforcement budget under its control unless the reduction is part of a total budget reduction or unless the entity has "sufficient justification" for doing so as determined by the unelected Iowa Department of Management.
- The House version has passed through the subcommittee and will be eligible for consideration in the Public Safety Committee.
- The Senate version has passed through the Senate State Government Committee and will be eligible for consideration on the Senate Floor.
- You are encouraged to reach out to your legislators and invite them to participate in the local budget-making process as a constituent and respectfully request the local budget-making process remain under local control.

HSB 194 | Tax Increment Finance

- Eligible to be brought up in the House Ways & Means Committee. The purpose of the legislation is to limit all future TIF districts, including those for slum and blight, to no more than 20 years. Reduces increment of TIF districts currently in excess of 20 years by 10% per year until it is zero.
- The League sent an email directly to cities that are represented by House Ways & Means Representatives. [You are encouraged to reach out to your legislators](#) on how this legislation would impact your community.

SF 480 & HF 637 | Costs for Providing Public Records

- Prohibits the recovery of costs for legal review or redaction of documents. Expenses associated with a legal review of documents that are potentially confidential and not subject to exposure can be significant. Many requests come from out-of-state for-profit corporations. Legal review is essential by cities of all sizes to ensure that confidential information is not accidentally released. This bill would place that cost on property taxes rather than the requesting entity.
- Passed out of Committee in the Senate and is eligible for consideration on the Senate Floor. Passed out of subcommittee in the House and is eligible to be considered by the House State Government Committee.
- The League is registered in opposition and will be seeking an amendment that allows for reasonable costs associated with redacting records to be collected.

SSB 1195 | Animal Enterprise Preemption

- Preempts a city or county from providing reasonable regulations over an "Animal Enterprise." Animal Enterprise is defined broadly to include all commercial and academic usages, including but not limited to zoos, furriers and circuses. Bill would reduce zoning authority and a city's ability to protect public health.
- Passed through subcommittee and is eligible for consideration in the Senate Agriculture Committee.
- The League is registered in opposition.

SF 455 | Natural Gas & Propane Regulation Preemption

- The legislation is drafted very broadly, likely having negative consequences beyond the goal of the legislation.
- The League has requested but has not received amendments that would protect right-of-way management, the exercise of franchise authority, and the purchase or procurement of energy services for property under the control of a political subdivision.

HSB 204 | Port Authority Alterations

- Provides more flexibility to [Code of Iowa Chapter 28J](#), port authorities.
- Passed out of subcommittee and is eligible for consideration in the House Economic Development Committee.
- The League is registered in support.

HSB 197 | Length of Service Award Program

- Creates a length of service award program as a tool to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters, emergency medical care providers and reserve peace officers.
- Passed out of subcommittee and is eligible for consideration in the House Local Government Committee.
- The League is registered undecided.

HF 683 | Emergency Response Districts

- Sections 1-5 allow a city to create a benefited fire district. However, Section 6 would require a city which contains a Regent University to have a distinct police and fire department.
- Passed out of the House Public Safety Committee and is eligible for consideration on the House Floor.
- The League is registered in opposition due to Section 6 and will be working to remove that section from the bill.

HF 562 | Emergency Medical Services District and Levy

- Allows for an emergency medical services district established by a county or city to levy an initial \$1 per thousand of valuation. After a referendum, a city can levy as much as is needed for the purpose of providing emergency medical services.
- Passed out of the House and is eligible for consideration on the Senate Floor.
- The League is registered undecided.

SF 443 | Abandoned Building Assistance

- Increases the population threshold of cities eligible to receive abandoned and nuisance building abatement grants. The current threshold is cities 5,000 in population or smaller and the new threshold would be cities with 7,000 in population or smaller.
- Passed out of the Senate Local Government Committee.
- The League is registered undecided.

SF 411 | Rebate ABD License Fees

- Grants the holder of an Alcohol Beverage Division license or permit a rebate or renewal fee waiver.
- Passed out of subcommittee and is eligible for consideration in the Senate State Government Committee.
- The League is registered undecided.

HF 309 | Nonprofit Privacy Information

- Prohibits a public entity from requiring a nonprofit to release information regarding the nonprofit's donors.
- Passed out of the House and will be sent to the Senate for consideration.
- The League is registered undecided.

Sent to the Governor

- [HF 418](#) | Eliminates the property classification of Multi-Residential. Contains the League's amendment, which protects self-supported municipal improvement districts and multi-unit workforce housing incentives.

Other Legislation of Interest

[HF 346](#) | Restrictions on Lobbying by Political Subdivisions. Subcommittee scheduled for Monday, March 1, at 10:45 a.m.

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

Contact Your Legislator

Legislative Forums

February 26

- [Rock Rapids Eggs & Issues Legislative Forum](#)
- [Mahaska Eggs & Issues Forum-Virtual](#)
- [Spencer Legislative Forum-Virtual](#)
- [Iowa City Legislative Forum-Virtual](#)
- [Clinton County Legislative Coffee-Virtual](#)
- [Sioux City Legislative Town Hall](#)
- [Clarinda Legislative Briefing](#)
- [Denison Legislative Coffee-Virtual](#)
- [Urbandale Legislative Forum](#)
- [Mount Ayr Legislative Forum](#)

March 1

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

