

## You need to know

- **Your outreach is being heard.** The House has released a tax omnibus proposal which differs in several key ways from the Senate/Governor's proposal. Currently, the House has retained the property tax relief payments known as the backfill whereas the Senate/Governor's proposal phases out the property tax relief that was passed in 2013. [Stay in contact with your legislators about maintaining backfill during these critical last days.](#)
- Legislative per diem ended on April 30. This normally means the final adjournment of the legislative session is near.
- **Legislative Service Awards:** Has your legislator been great to work with this year? Do you feel they have been responsive and gone out of their way to represent the interests of your city while serving in the Iowa Legislature? Nominate them for the League's Legislative Service Award by [clicking here.](#)
- **Register for a May 12 webinar** with Congressman Feenstra where we'll discuss what's happening in DC, the American Rescue Plan, and possible future legislation. [Registration is required.](#)

## [HF 893](#) | House Tax Omnibus

- Contains many provisions such as an increase to the Housing Trust Fund, Workforce Housing Tax Credits, brownfield and grayfield development incentives, Rural Economic Development tax credits, and the Emergency Volunteer Tax Credit.
- Passed through the Ways & Means Committee and will be eligible for floor debate.
- The League is registered in support, and is appreciative of the House compromise, which accomplishes many of the goals legislators have set out to accomplish and does so without removing local government property tax relief passed in 2013 known as the backfill.

## [SSB 1276](#) | Governor/Senate Tax Omnibus Phases Out Backfill

- This legislation contains language which would defund the local government property tax relief payments that were implemented in 2013 known as the backfill as well as many of the positive provisions that are in HF 893.
- The bill also expands the elderly property tax credit which will shift revenue at the local level. A [fiscal note](#) has been released, showing the impact to local governments: \$52.5M property tax replacement dollars removed from cities, and an impact to local governments that will exceed \$36.2M by FY 2029 for the Elderly Property Tax Credit expansion.
- There is a subcommittee scheduled for Monday, May 10 at 9:30 a.m. and will be available for public comment via Zoom. See the meeting agenda for details on [how to view or speak at this subcommittee.](#)

## [HF 889](#) | Banning COVID Passports

- Prohibits a political subdivision or private business from requiring an individual to show proof of vaccination for COVID-19. Prohibits state funds from going to a political subdivision or private business if they violate this newly created regulation.
- Passed out of the Senate and has been sent to the Governor for her signature.

## [HF 797](#) & [SF 342](#) | Public Safety Benefit Increase

- These two bills seek to increase support and benefits to public safety officers through various measures which include increasing MFPRSI benefits, requiring an officer's accrued sick leave be paid to the officer upon retirement, codifying qualified immunity, and many others.
- While no progress on these proposals have been made in the last few weeks, it is possible they are brought up and passed in the final days of session.
- You are encouraged to read these bills and contact your Senator with any concerns or questions you may have.

## [HF 802](#) | Implicit Bias Training Limitations

- Would prevent "divisive concepts" from being utilized in training which are defined in the bill.
- Passed out of the House and will be sent to the Governor for signature or veto.
- The League is registered undecided.

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

May 8

- [VIRTUAL - Altoona Coffee Chat](#)



## Updates on the American Rescue Plan

The League is compiling resources and guidance on the American Rescue plan including allowable uses of funds, restrictions, documentation and other direction as they become available from the federal government. You can find these resources on the [League's website.](#)

