

The 2024 legislative session Iowa Legislative Report
Iowa State Police Association
90th General Assembly, 2024 Session
Week Six: February 15, 2024
Fitzgerald, Smith & Associates, Lobbyists

Week six is now in the books and with that also brings the first funnel week to a close. As many of you know, funnel week is a self-imposed deadline created by the legislature that requires Senate bills to be passed out of Senate committees and House files to be passed out of House committees for the bills to remain eligible for debate. Bills that do not make it through this process are effectively “dead” for the rest of the legislative session. One caveat is that a bill or sections of the bill may be revived as amendments in other policy or appropriation bills later in session. So, in the end no bill is officially dead until the session is over but the path forward for bills not making the funnel deadline is difficult to say the least.

We have seen fewer bills die this session than in years past. Many bills which are not garnering full caucus support are being passed out of committee encouraging further discussion. Many of these bills will still have a difficult time making it to the floor for debate by the Chamber but they are live rounds and need to be monitored. Work will continue with multiple amendments drafted to bring more support to the bill. In some cases, the amendment process can make a good bill better but conversely take a bad bill and make it worse.

We have had plenty of action to report on our monitored bills this week. Below is an update on some of our monitored bills:

- SF-505—411 bill. There was no committee action this week on this bill, but we did have a productive discussion with the Senate Republican Leadership. We continue to advocate for this bill from leadership down to the full rank and file caucus members.
- SF-2325/SF-2205—These are two civil service bills that both passed out of committee surviving the first funnel.
- The following bills died in funnel:
 - SF-2020—Free college tuition for officer families
 - SSB-3018—Suspension of law enforcement officers

- HF-2037—Window tint
- All other monitored bills passed committee surviving funnel. (See Bill Watch List).

It is expected that both chambers will spend next week in floor debate. Its likely they will focus on their own chambers priorities first then decide what bills they intend to move from the other chamber. The second funnel deadline is March 15th.

If you have any questions regarding bill status, procedural processes or simply curious as to the general tone from week to week, please reach out to us any time.

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