**Iowa Legislative Report**

**88th General Assembly, 2019 Session**

**Iowa State Police Association**

**Week 3: January 28th – February 1, 2019**

**Mike Heller and Paula Feltner, Lobbyists**

The Capitol was open for session this week despite the bitter cold weather. As is common this time of year, both chambers gaveled-in and gaveled-out most mornings, before turning to subcommittee and committee action for the rest of the day. This schedule is necessary the first part of any session. At of the end of this week, **557 pieces of legislation had been introduced**: 191 Senate Files, 107 Senate Study Bills, 167 House Files and 92 House Study Bills were sponsored and subcommittees must be held on most of those bills which takes a lot of time. That bill total does not include the resolutions and joint resolutions in each chamber.

Speaking of joint resolutions, the fiscal bureau released information this week on **SJR 2 CONSTITUTIONAL SPENDING LIMIT** (Zaun) (Appropriations) which proposes an amendment to establish a **99% constitutional limit on spending** and includes other details on revenues and spending. The non-partisan Legislative Service Bureau wrote that the future fiscal impact of the amendment cannot be determined as the impact is dependent on revenue collections. **However, in an analysis of the last twelve sessions**, spending in five would have been unaffected by the amendment and that **spending** **would have been lowered in seven.** The LSA estimated spending reductions between $40 million and $126 million, or an average of $75 million, in the sessions that spending would have been reduced.

The proposed amendment would be spending limitations in the Iowa Constitution. If passed by this General Assembly, the Secretary of State would incur about $14,000 in publication costs. If passed by the next General Assembly, statewide publication costs would increase to about $175,000.

The budget subcommittees have yet to start on figures for the budgets. There were some subcommittees of interest. **Senate Judiciary Committee: Voted Out (3) bills**

**SSB 1005 POST CONVICTION RELIEF-** Makes changes to post-conviction relief procedures regarding various court records of earlier proceedings, including that the clerk of courts shall make some trial records available electronically. PASSED 14-0; FM: Dawson

**SSB 1014 VULNERABLE ELDERS -**Defines a vulnerable elder as a person 60 or older who cannot protect themselves from abuse due to age or mental or physical condition. PASSED 10-4; FM: Dawson

**SSB 1015 DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE -** Strikes a requirement that a caretaker who is taking advantage of the assets of a dependent adult be doing so for personal profit in order for the abuse to be considered dependent adult abuse. PASSED 14-0;FM: Dawson

**House Judiciary Committee voted out three bills:**

**HSB 6 WITNESS MILEAGE CHARGES**: Paustian (C) - amends Code to provide that a witness no longer receives mileage expenses but instead receives reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred for each mile actually traveled in the performance of duties, not to exceed a maximum rate established by the supreme court. Witnesses from another state required to testify in this state are no longer entitled to 10 cents per mile but rather to reimbursement of the actual and necessary expenses incurred for each mile traveled by the most direct route to and from the proceeding.

**HSB 23 LASCIVIOUS CONDUCT AGE**: Klein (C) - does not change the current offense of lascivious conduct with a minor which makes it unlawful for a person over 18 years of age who is in a position of authority over any minor, regardless of age, to force, persuade, or coerce a minor, with or without consent, to disrobe or partially disrobe for the purpose of arousing or satisfying the sexual desires of either of them. The current offense is punishable as a serious misdemeanor. What is does do is expand the actions that comprise this offense.

**HSB 68 FELONY VOTING AMENDMENT** - proposes an amendment to the Iowa Constitution that limits the disqualification from voting for persons convicted of a felony through the time until the sentence is discharged. Governor Reynolds proposed the idea in her Condition of the State address and said, “I don’t believe that voting rights should be forever stripped, and I don’t believe restoration should be in the hands of a single person.”

In the Senate, Senator Dawson is chairing the subcommittee on **SSB 1046** **FELONY VOTING AMENDMENT**. The Senate subcommittee has not scheduled a meeting time yet on the bill.

We hope you are trying to get to know your Senator and Representative if you haven’t already met them. If you don’t know who they are, simply go to: **“FIND YOUR LEGISLATOR**” at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators>/find. Enter your address on the right side of the page and you will get both your State Representative and your State Senator. **Click the two names and you will be taken to a site where you can find out all kinds of information about each person (district, home address, home phone, committees, etc).**

**YOU CAN ALSO SIGN UP FOR THEIR WEEKLY NEWSLETTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.** They are a wonderful source of information on what your legislators are thinking, what is important to them, and when they are conducting forums. Most legislators conduct forums back in their home districts on Fridays and on the weekends to seek constituent feedback on a variety of topics. **We strongly encourage attendance at forums. It is a very effective way to let legislators know we work in their districts and to advance and address issues that are important to us. A link to these forums can be found here:**

that are vital to counties. A link to these forums can be found here   
[http://www.iowahouserepublicans.com/forums](https://iowacounties.us16.list-manage.com/track/click?u=92e93987356ff70bf32043f81&id=d57707e44c&e=d60e9d6200)  
[http://iowahouse.org/forums/](https://iowacounties.us16.list-manage.com/track/click?u=92e93987356ff70bf32043f81&id=16b1deef6c&e=d60e9d6200)  
[http://www.senate.iowa.gov/democrats/events/](https://iowacounties.us16.list-manage.com/track/click?u=92e93987356ff70bf32043f81&id=2ead7fa5ca&e=d60e9d6200)  
[http://www.iowasenaterepublicans.com/events/](https://iowacounties.us16.list-manage.com/track/click?u=92e93987356ff70bf32043f81&id=27532d0bd9&e=d60e9d6200)

As we discussed last week, we are also sending an **excel sheet with the bills** we are following on your behalf. **THESE BILLS ARE 'HOTLINKED" IF YOU WANT TO LOOK AT THE TEXT AND HISTORY OF EACH BILL.** **Thank you for letting us know your positions each week and which bills you want deleted from the list.** You are initially registered as **MONITOR** on all the bills **and will change positions when instructed.** Please contact us if you have questions and have a good week!

**Let us know what you are hearing and have a SAFE and WARM week!**