Iowa Legislative Report Iowa State Police Association 89th General Assembly, 2021 Session

Week 5: February 12, 2021

Fitzgerald, Smith & Associates, Lobbyists

Another week in the books for the 2021 Legislative session and there was plenty of activity with our monitored bills. The House seemed to focus more on floor debate while the Senate focused on moving bills through committee. As you will see on the bill update, more than a half of dozen bills passed through the various Senate committees making them eligible for floor debate.

The two top priority bills, 411 and Back the Blue, also had positive activity this week although it was more behind the scenes as opposed to committee or floor action. Working through possible amendments as well as legislator contacts in both chambers as this is a key part in successfully moving a bill to the Governor's desk. We also have been in direct talks with the Governor's staff keeping them abreast of our changes and concerns.

Our 411 bill is still on track although has slowed slightly. This is not a concern rather a normal function in the "sausage making" process. We are continuing to have conversations with the Senate to make sure they can be a board with our bill prior to it moving out of the House. These have been positive conversations and we still feel like we are in a strong position. We are also working through a few technical amendments to correct drafting errors, again a normal part of the process.

The Governors "Back the Blue" bill is being worked on in both chambers. House and Senate floor managers are talking and are working through any disagreements they may have. We have provided them with our priorities for inclusion in the bill and will continue to lobby for those next week. We should see new language from the House in the next week or so. We are not in a time crunch yet, but the funnel deadline is March 5th.

As we move through the 2021 legislative session, please feel free to contact us if you would like additional information on a specific bill or any other questions you may have.

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