**The 2024 legislative session Iowa Legislative Report**

**Iowa State Police Association**

**90th General Assembly, 2024 Session**

**Week One: January 12, 2024**

**Fitzgerald, Smith & Associates, Lobbyists**

Monday, the gavel dropped in both chambers officially starting the 2024 legislative session. The inclement weather and poor driving conditions may have influenced timing of Legislators arrival, but the show still went on. Day one kicked off with speeches from the leaders in both chambers. They presented their official remarks laying out their legislative agenda for 2024. As in years past, taxes, economic growth and education rose to the top of their priorities.

Tuesday was the Governors turn to lay out her legislative agenda. She also set education and tax reductions as goals for the 2024 session. She detailed her policy requests for the legislature and has already filed bills for legislative review. Legislative committees will start bringing these bills forward next week beginning the process of committee review, possible amendments followed by floor debate. These bills will more than likely look much different when they are passed and sent to the Governor’s desk than what they are today.

The Chief Justice and Adjunct General presented the condition of the Iowa Courts and National Guard respectively on Wednesday and Thursday. The legislature will finish up the organizational committee meetings setting the stage for sub and full committee work in earnest next week.

As in years past, the first week of the legislative session primarily encompasses official proceedings to start the session, speeches, and committee organization meetings. The real work will start next week as we start the bill process and eventually move onto budget appropriations.

This year is a little different regarding the status of some of the bills introduced last session. The Senate has procedurally reassigned most of the bills that they passed last session but had failed to move in the House. This allows for new subcommittee meetings to be scheduled without having to redraft a new bill. These bills have been notated on the bill watch spread sheet which will be updated on a weekly basis.

As usual, we expect some controversy and contentious moments along the way as well as a few roadblocks. We are confident that we have prepared ourselves to meet any challenges head on and look forward to a productive legislative session. 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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