

Iowa Legislative Report
Iowa State Police Association
89th General Assembly, 2022 Session
End of Session Wrap Up: May 24, 2022
Fitzgerald, Smith & Associates, Lobbyists

The 2022 legislative session was scheduled to end on April 19th but the policy and fiscal disagreements between the Governor, House and Senate did not allow that to happen. After a mini shutdown, sending legislators home while leadership negotiated, it looks like we've finally come to an end. As I write this final update, the legislature is putting the final touches on agreed to legislation and budget bills that should allow the Sine Die resolution to be passed, ending the 2022 legislative session.

As we have discussed, this year was a redistricting year. Every ten years new legislative districts are drawn throwing chaos into the reelection process. When boundary lines change, so does the constituent make up and quite possibly a legislator's philosophy on how they vote. These factors must be considered when we are lobbying our legislative priorities. Although we were not able to pass all of our priorities this session, we were able to stop legislation that would harm us as well as bring home some significant victories that will benefit our members moving forward.

Here is a list and explanation of the priority bills that passed this session:

SF-513

A bill for an act relating to the confidentiality of certain law enforcement information involving a person experiencing a mental health crisis, substance-related disorder crisis, or housing crisis

Passed Senate 48-0 on 3/9

Passed house 96-0 on 4/5

Governor signed on 5/23/22

HF-2154

A bill relating to release of certain records maintained by the statewide fire and police retirement system.

Passed House 95-0 on 2/22

Passed Senate w/amendment 48-0 on 4/5

House concurred with the Senate amendment 97-0 on 4/6

Governor signed on 5/2/22

SF-2287

Relating to used catalytic converters transaction and providing penalties.

Passed Senate 44-4 on 3/2

Passed House w/amendment 88-5 on 4/12

Passed Senate 42-3 on 5/2

Governor signed on 5/24/22

HF-2345

An Act relating to department of transportation employees designated as peace officers, and including effective date provisions

Passed House 90-3 on 2/28

Passed Senate 44-1 on 4/26

Governor signed on 5/23/22

HF-2496

A bill relating to the procedural requirements for placing an officer's name on a Brady-Gigliolist, and for a prosecuting agency disclosing exculpatory evidence.

Passed House 93-0 on 3/14

Passed Senate w/amendment 45-0 on 5/23

House concurred 84-0 on 5/23

Governor signed on 6/17/22

Below is a list of the bills that we registered opposed to and defeated:

SF-352

A bill for an act relating to the minimum standard for transparency for motor vehicle window tint.

Passed Senate subcommittee 1/27

Failed to make through the first funnel

SF-2162

A bill for an act relating to the authority of a law enforcement officer over local businesses operating during an annual recreational bicycle ride across the state.

This bill failed to pass subcommittee and did not make it through the funnel.

The collective bargaining, civil service, hands free, and traffic violations for stationary vehicle are bills that we registered in support of but failed to make the funnel deadline.

Another priority bill that we have been working on for the last couple years is the 411 bill (HF-797). This bill passed the House 92-0 on March 11th, 2021. The Senate passed it out of full committee on March 30th, 2021. It then sat on the Senate unfinished business calendar until the end of session.

This session we took a different approach as to how to lobby the legislature with the “Back the Blue” bill passing last year. The approach was to work with the firefighters and have them take the lead as we pushed ourselves to get this legislation to the Governor. The major issues we needed to deal with on the 411 bill was the opposition from the Metro Coalition. The costs they presented to the Senate created concern and eventually time ran out and the session ended. The Senate leadership has stated that they would like the Metro Coalition and other parties to get together and find a resolution the 411 issues. Specifically, work related injuries not causing retirement and transition time for accidental disabilities. These are issues that we feel we can get resolved and be ready for the upcoming session in 2023.

This session, to say the least, has been odd and very eventful. This is the first full session back from the two years of dealing with the pandemic and it brought a lot of angst and disagreements. Even though both chambers and the Governors office represent the same party, there were many policy and appropriation disagreements. A few of the bills creating disagreements include the income tax bill, Biofuels bill and school vouchers. These disagreements really slowed down the process which in turn added five weeks to the scheduled end of session.

We had a lot of successes this session in both moving priority bills and stopping those that would harm us. We also believe we have made significant progress for passing those priority bills next session that came up short in 2022. The Iowa State Police Association is a respected group at the Iowa Capitol and we look forward to continuing our advocacy moving forward.

Feel free to reach out to any of us for further clarification or if you have any questions.

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