**The 2024 legislative session Iowa Legislative Report**

**Iowa State Police Association**

**90th General Assembly, 2024 Session**

**Week Two: January 19, 2024**

**Fitzgerald, Smith & Associates, Lobbyists**

Week two is now in the books and once again Iowa’s weather had an impact on this week’s events. The snow, wind and bitter cold made it difficult for some Legislators to make it to Des Moines. It didn’t affect many, but in some cases, it was enough to move back legislation work until next week. Overall session seems to be moving slower than in years past although we don’t expect this pace to last very long.

Although the weather impacted some of the bills we are monitoring, there were other legislative issues that took center stage. The Governor’s proposal for restructuring the AEA’s (Area Education Agencies) seems to be the hot topic over the first two weeks. Both chambers are reviewing the Governor’s proposal trying to determine what, if any, changes are needed. Multiple meetings took place between the Governor and various legislators/policy committees to determine concerns and possible solutions. After having conversations with multiple law makers, it seems that the discussions are moving in a positive direction. This is a Governor priority so the sooner it can be resolved the quicker they can move on to other priority bills as well as the state’s budget.

Another issue that took up a lot of legislative attention this week was the Iowa Caucuses. Legislators are very active in the process and their focus on caucus night is dialed into their chosen candidate and home district. Below are the Iowa results:

With more than 99% of the results in, former President Donald Trump won the Iowa Republican Caucus, with about 51% of the vote. Florida Governor Ron DeSantis finished second with about 21% of the vote, and former South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley finished third, with about 19% of the vote and more than 2,300 votes behind DeSantis. Of the 40 Iowa delegates, Trump is expected to win 20 delegates; DeSantis is expected to win 9 delegates; Haley is expected to win 8 delegates and Vivek Ramaswamy is expected to win 3 delegates. With about 99% of the vote from the Republican Caucuses in, the votes stood at:

• Donald Trump: 56,260

• Ron DeSantis: 23,420

• Nikki Haley: 21,085

• Vivek Ramaswamy: 8,449

• Ryan Binkley: 774; Asa Hutchinson: 190; Chris Christie: 35; Other: 84

ISPA is currently tracking eight bills, most of them are bills that did not make it to the Governors desk last year. These bills have been reintroduced and are live rounds for this session. The 411 bill, which is still our priority, is being worked behind the scenes. Conversations are taking place with Senate leadership to not only move the bill this session but to determine the best path to take. We will have a better update in next weeks newsletter as many meetings will take place in the coming days.

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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