

The 2026 Iowa Legislative Report
Iowa State Police Association
91st General Assembly, 2026 Session
Week Fifteen: April 24, 2026
Fitzgerald, Smith & Associates, Lobbyists

On April 21st, the 2026 legislative session surpassed its 100th day, marking the scheduled conclusion and the final day for legislators to receive their daily per diem for expenses. Although the session was expected to adjourn on Tuesday according to the calendar, ten budget bills and numerous policy bills remain unresolved. The duration of the session is currently unpredictable; however, there are indications that Leadership may attempt to conclude proceedings next week, even if this requires weekend work.

Budget negotiations appear to have reached agreement on both the final overall target and individual budget allocations, although minor adjustments to specific line items remain possible. The primary concern is whether certain policy bills, and the legislators advocating for them, will delay passage of the budget bills until their preferred policies are adopted. While it is common for House and Senate Leadership to negotiate policy through budget bill timing, it is unusual for a group of legislators to withhold approval of budgets pending the passage of their favored policies. Resolution of these issues is necessary for the Sine Die resolution to pass and formally end the session.

As the session enters its first week of overtime, two prominent policy matters, the Property Tax and Carbon Capture Pipeline/Eminent Domain bills, remain unsettled. While other bills continue to move between chambers, these two items are expected to dominate debate and influence the length of the session. Both chambers maintain distinct positions on these bills, and as of the end of this week, consensus appears distant.

Should the legislature aim to finish next week, both chambers will need to identify common ground and as is typical in negotiations, be willing to compromise on issues of importance. If compromise is achieved, the session could conclude next

week; otherwise, deliberations may extend several weeks further. During the remaining days, extended caucus meetings and floor debates are anticipated, potentially continuing late into the evening and early morning hours. The final day of the 2026 Legislative session will come, the question left unanswered is when.

The activity on our monitored bills has been updated in the weekly bill tracker document. If you have any questions regarding specific bill status, procedural processes or simply curious as to the general tone from week to week, please reach out to us anytime.

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