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Week 4- Jan. 30 -Feb 3
Iowa Firefighters Association
Chuck Raska, President & IFA Board

Wed. Feb 1st was our IFA Day on the Hill and the Chili Cookoff. IFA President Chuck Raska was introduced on the floor of the House by Rep Josh Meggers.

We had a great turnout for the chili cookoff, we served 35 gallons of chili! Thanks to the following departments who brought chili: Holland, Radcliffe, Dunkerton/Jesup, Waucoma, Sigourney, and Iowa Falls.

Jesup/Dunkerton came away with the most votes this year and took home the coveted trophy.

We also met with all the leaders in both the majority and minority parties to discuss our legislation.

Board members were also able to watch the LOSAP bill pass through the full Local Government committee unanimously. The bill is now eligible to go to the floor for debate.

Bills of interest to IFA
Actikon this week in noted ion RED

HSB 19 LOSAP

Passed in sub-committee 3-0!

Passed full Local Government committee 21-0 with an amendment that allows cities to raise the money needed for the LOSAP award

Now goes to the floor.

LOSAP has been sent to drafting in the Senate by Senator Tom Shipley

SF 43 Building Code Changes (Local Gov)

SF 174

Subcommittee of Webster, Green, Quirnbach/ passed

Passed full Local Gov Committee 8-4

This bill relates to the regulation of building design elements by governmental subdivisions. The bill defines “national model code”, “residential building”, and “residential building design element”.



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The bill prohibits a governmental subdivision from adopting or enforcing a rule, charter provision, ordinance, order, building code, or other regulation that governs building design elements in three primary manners. First, a governmental subdivision cannot prohibit or limit the use or installation of a building product or material in the construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential building or structure if the building product or material is approved for use by an applicable, recently published national model code. Second, a governmental subdivision cannot establish a standard for a building product, material, or aesthetic method in construction, renovation, maintenance, or other alteration of a residential building or structure if the standard is more stringent than a standard for the product, material, or aesthetic method under a recently published national model code. Third, a governmental subdivision cannot establish a new, or amend an existing, residential building design element requirement unless certain conditions apply to either the building or the requirement.

The bill does not prohibit or diminish the rights of private parties to enact regulations as created by valid private covenants or other contractual agreements among property owners relating to residential building design elements including but not limited to restrictive covenants and declarations such as those relating to condominiums or otherwise permitted under Iowa law.

The bill takes effect upon enactment.

HSB 38/HF 138 Protected Class

This bill passed subcommittee of Collins, Bossman and Steckman-passed 3-0
Passed full State Government Committee

[On debate calendar](#)

SF 55-Protected class

Sub committee assigned: [Bousselot, Boulton, and Kraayenbrink.](#)

This bill provides that persons employed as a peace officer or fire fighter by a covered employer, and not just a city, under the Iowa public employees' retirement system (IPERS) are included within the protection occupation category of IPERS. The bill provides that membership service prior to the effective date of the bill shall be reclassified as protection occupation service without payment of any additional contributions to pay the actuarial costs of the reclassified service if the employer certifies the employment as constituting protection occupation service under the bill.

The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies to membership service under IPERS on or after July 1, 2017.

HF 62 BANNING PERFLUOROALKYLS (Isenhardt D) (Public Safety)

NO ACTION

Bans the sale of food packaging material and fire-fighting foam using perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl.

Makes exceptions for material already in stock in the state. Prohibits using fire-fighting foam with these substances for training but makes exceptions. Bans the sale of upholstered furniture treated with fire-



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retardant chemicals. Requires a study by DHHS on the matter. Establishes simple misdemeanor penalties.

HSB 126 Department Re-organization bill

Bloomington, Baeth, Johnson, Lundgren, Nielsen, Young And Zabner

This 1500 page bill re-organizes state government departments from 37 to 16 departments. The Senate version is broken down into 3 bills. IFA's concern is that it takes many services away from the State Fire Marshalls office. For example: all fire inspections will now go through the Department of Inspections and Appeals(DIA) and the fireworks funds grants will also go through DIA too. There are many other parts of the bill that are of concern.

SSB 1123 Department Re-organization bill

Dawson, Driscoll, Jochum, Koelker. Winkler

SSB 1124 Department Re-organization bill

Dawson, Jochum, Klemish, Koelker and Petersen

SSB 1125 Department Re-organization bill

SSB 1001/SF 183 Maximum age

Passed sub

Passed full committee

This bill relates to the maximum employment age for certain city public safety positions. Under current law, the maximum age for a city police officer, marshal, or fire fighter employed for police duty or the duty of fighting fires is 65 years of age. The maximum employment age does not apply to volunteer fire fighters. The bill sets a maximum employment age of 65 for city law enforcement officers, in addition to those positions currently subject to the maximum employment age, and provides that the maximum employment age applies to any included position regardless of whether the person's employment is full-time or part-time. The bill states that the maximum employment age does not apply to reserve peace officers in addition to volunteer fire fighters.

The bill takes effect upon enactment.

SSB 1056/SF 181 Property tax bill

HSB 120 Property tax bill

This bill impacts city budgets effective immediately which can impact the funds available to pay for fire service. We are asking for an amendment to push this bill forward so the city administrators have time to effectively budget and plan for such changes

Code section 441.21(4) establishes the calculation used to determine the assessment limitation for residential property and agricultural property. As the result of 2021 legislation, certain property that was previously classified as multi residential property is classified as residential property for



assessment years beginning on or after January 1, 2022, and the valuations of such property are included within the aggregate valuations used to calculate the assessment limitation under Code section 441.21(4). This bill excludes the values of the following from the calculation of the assessment limitation for assessment years beginning on or after January 1, 2022: mobile home parks; manufactured home communities; land-leased communities; assisted living facilities; parcels primarily used or intended for human habitation containing three or more separate dwelling units; and that portion of a parcel primarily used or intended for use as commercial property or industrial property that is used or intended for human habitation containing three or more separate dwelling units.

The bill includes implementation provisions requiring the director of the department of revenue, within two business days following the effective date of the bill, to issue an amended order certifying to the county auditor of each county the percentages of actual value at which residential property, commercial property, industrial property, and property valued by the department of revenue pursuant to Code chapter 434 shall be assessed for taxation. The bill also requires each county auditor to determine revised assessed values based on the amended order and report the revised values to the department of management within 10 days after issuance of the order.

The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies retroactively to assessment years beginning on or after January 1, 2022.

SSB 1091 Holding office as a Firefighter

Passed sub committee

This bill relates to certain emergency services provided by a city.

Current law generally voids a contract entered into by a city officer or employee if the officer or employee has an interest, direct or indirect, in the contract or job of work or material or the profits thereof or services to be furnished or performed for the officer's or employee's city. The bill provides that this provision does not prohibit the lawful compensation, including nominal stipends, incentives, and benefits, for a volunteer fire fighter or emergency medical care provider holding one or more city offices or positions if holding the office or position is not incompatible with another public office or is not prohibited by law.

Current law allows a city council member, during the term for which the member is elected, to serve as the chief of a volunteer fire department or serve a volunteer fire department in any other capacity. A person holding the office of chief of such a volunteer fire department at the time of the person's election to the city council may continue to hold the office of chief of the volunteer fire department during the city council term for which that person was elected. The bill allows a city council member to serve as chief of the volunteer fire department upon a majority vote of the council.

The bill provides that a city may establish a fund or reserve savings account to pay for major equipment for police, fire, rescue, or emergency medical services. If a city has established such a fund or account and has received a payment, award, judgment, or insurance settlement for damaged police, fire, rescue, or emergency medical services equipment or vehicles, the city shall deposit the moneys into the relevant fund or account rather than into the general fund of the city. However, if a city uses moneys from its general fund to cover costs to repair or replace such equipment or vehicles, the city may deposit into its general fund an amount received from the payment, award, judgment, or insurance settlement that is equal to the amount used from the general fund. The city shall deposit any remaining amount received into the relevant fund or account. Moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year may be deposited into a



reserve savings account. Moneys in a reserve savings account shall be used for the purpose of maintaining or acquiring major equipment including vehicles.

SF 41 Funding of EMS

Passed subcommittee

HF 126 Funding of EMS

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Under Code section 29C.17, a local emergency management agency's approved budget is funded by one or any combination of several funding options, as determined by the local emergency management commission, including a countywide special levy pursuant to Code section 331.424(1) under the county's supplemental property tax levy authority in an amount sufficient to pay for the maintenance and operation of the local emergency management agency. This bill authorizes the local emergency management commission to certify and levy the countywide special levy for the maintenance and operation of the agency and strikes the county's authority to certify such a levy. The bill also specifies the local emergency management commission to be a municipality for purposes of Code chapter 24 (local budgets).

The bill applies to budgets for property taxes due and payable in fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2024.

*The tire bill language has been submitted to LSA, we are waiting for a final draft.

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