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**Week 6- Feb 13-Feb 17**

**Iowa Firefighters Association**

**Chuck Raska, President & IFA Board**

**New action highlighted in red**

**CALL TO ACTION HIGHLIGHTED IN GREEN**

March 3<sup>rd</sup> is the first funnel, which means all bills must be through one chambers sub and full committee process in order to remain eligible.

Our LOSAP bill has passed the funnel deadline.

**Bills of interest to IFA**

Action this week in noted ion RED

**HSB 19/ HF 193 LOSAP**

Passed sub & full Local Government committee with an amendment that allows cities to raise the money needed for the LOSAP award

Now goes to the Appropriations committee.

HF 193 PASSED Approps subcommittee.

PASSED Full Approps committee, now it is eligible for floor debate

**ACTION ITEM:**

Email [Pat.grassley@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:Pat.grassley@legis.iowa.gov) and [Matt.Windschitl@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:Matt.Windschitl@legis.iowa.gov)

And respectfully ask them to support HF 193 and bring HF 193 to the floor for debate.

SENATE SF 272: Senator Tom Shipley will sponsor this bill

Subcommittee is assigned to: Chair: Shipley, Green and Knox

LOSAP IS FUNNEL PROOF

**SF 43 Building Code Changes (Local Gov)**

**SF 174**

**Subcommittee of Webster, Green, Quirnbach**

**Passed Sub & full Local Gov Committee**

**On debate calendar**

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”.

The bill prohibits a governmental subdivision from adopting or enforcing a rule, charter provision, ordinance, order, building code, or other regulation that governs building



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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.

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

### **HSB 126 Department Re-organization bill**

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

#### **Sub-committees are scheduled for the week of Feb n20th**

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.



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**SSB 1123 Department Re-organization bill**

Schultz, Bisignano, Boulton, Bousselot, Webster  
Subcommittee scheduled 2/20/2023

**SSB 1124 Department Re-organization bill**

Dawson, Jochum, Klemish, Koelker and Petersen  
**PASSED Subcommittee**

**SSB 1125 Department Re-organization bill**

**Subcommittee assigned: Dawson, Driscoll, Jochum, Koelker, Winkler**

**SSB 1001/SF 183 Maximum age**

**Passed sub**

**Passed full committee**

**Passed Senate floor-Now to public safety in the HOUSE: HSB 162**

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**

**PASSED SENATE and HOUSE**

**HSB 120 Property tax bill**

**Subcommittee assigned: Kaufmann, Bloomingdale, Forbes, Harris, Jacoby  
Ways and Means**

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



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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 5

### **SSB 1091/SF 214 Holding office as a Firefighter**

Passed sub and full committee, ready for floor debate

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.



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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/ready for full committee

#### **HF 126 Funding of EMS**

Passed subcommittee/ready for full committee

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.

#### **SF 263 EMS SALARIES (Salmon) (Ways & Means)**

Sub-committee assigned: Dickey, Klemish and Petersen

Code chapter 422D authorizes counties to impose a property tax levy, an income surtax, or a combination of both taxes within the county, excluding those areas within a



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benefited emergency medical services district under Code chapter 357F, to be used for specified emergency medical services costs, if the taxes are approved at election.

This bill adds salaries and benefits of emergency medical care providers, as defined in Code section 147A.1, to the eligible expenditures from the county emergency medical services trust fund under Code section 422D.6.

### **SF 266 CIVIL SERVICE POLICE & FF HIRES** (Local Government)

SUBCOMMITTEE scheduled for 2/20/2023

This bill relates to civil service requirements for the hiring of certain city public safety positions. Under current law, Code chapter 400 (civil service) sets forth a variety of provisions relating to hiring civil service employees, including examinations, probationary periods, veteran preferences, and other qualifications. The bill allows a city council to suspend civil service hiring practices for the hiring of fire fighters, fire chiefs, assistant fire chiefs, police officers, police chiefs, or assistant police chiefs. A suspension shall not be in effect for more than one year, but a city council may immediately vote to implement a new suspension upon the expiration of the prior suspension. Required hiring practices shall be immediately reinstated upon the expiration of a suspension. A city council may vote to reinstate hiring practices prior to the expiration of a suspension. A subsequent vote to suspend required hiring practices is considered a vote for a new suspension

### **HF 326 Eliminating consumer fireworks**

**Introduced by democrat, Rep Forbes**

This bill prohibits the possession, sale, and use of consumer fireworks in Iowa.

Current law permits retailers and community groups to obtain a license to sell consumer fireworks pursuant to Code section 100.19, and permits persons to register as wholesalers for the purpose of reselling consumer fireworks pursuant to Code section 100.19A.

Current law prescribes limitations on the use of consumer fireworks to specified dates, times, and locations. Current law also allows cities and counties to prohibit or limit the use of consumer fireworks by ordinance or resolution, and allows the department of natural resources to issue permits for the use of consumer fireworks in state parks and preserves.

The bill makes conforming changes with respect to the prohibition on consumer fireworks possession, sale, building zoning, and use, and includes transition provisions. The bill provides that all licensure and registration fees collected by the state fire marshal pursuant to repealed Code sections 100.19 and 100.19A shall be prorated, and the portion of such fees that represent



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the remaining period of the licensee or registrant shall be returned to the licensee or registrant. The bill also provides that the state fire marshal shall, upon the repeal of the consumer fireworks fee fund, transfer any remaining moneys in the fund to the general fund of the state.

A person who violates the bill commits a simple misdemeanor. A simple misdemeanor is punishable by confinement for no more than 30 days and a fine of at least \$105 but not more than \$855 or by both. The bill takes effect upon enactment.

### SF 113 PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR EMS

**Sub committee members : Senators, Dickey, Dawson and Petersen**

This bill authorizes a volunteer emergency services provider, as defined in Code section 100B.14(2), whose homestead is located in the local service area for which the provider is a volunteer and who has been a volunteer emergency services provider for five or more years, earns less than \$5,000 per year for service as a volunteer emergency services provider, and is in good standing with the provider's volunteer agency or entity, to file a petition with the county board of supervisors, requesting abatement of property taxes and special assessments assessed on the individual's homestead and giving other information as the board may require.

The petition filed with the board of supervisors shall specify the type of abatement sought under the bill. Following receipt of the petition, the board of supervisors shall forward a copy of the petition to the governing body of each taxing authority not excluded under the bill that levies taxes or special assessments on the homestead. If the board of supervisors approves the abatement, the abatement shall apply to all applicable taxes and special assessments on the homestead, excluding those for which an objection by the governing body taxing authority was filed with the board of supervisors within 30 days of the board providing a copy of the petition. The board of supervisors may order the abatement of the taxes and special assessments that are assessed against the petitioner's homestead for the assessment year during which the petition is filed and, if specified by the board, the taxes and special assessments for one or more future years, subject to the petitioner continuing to meet the qualifications of the bill. The approved abatement shall not exceed the following: (1) for a volunteer emergency services provider that has not been a volunteer for at least 10 years, an abatement of 10 percent of all applicable taxes and special assessments imposed on the homestead, not to exceed \$500; and (2) for a volunteer emergency service provider who has been a volunteer emergency service provider for 20 or more years, an abatement of 10 percent of all applicable taxes and special assessments imposed on the homestead, not to exceed \$500, during the remainder of the volunteer emergency service provider's life so long as the provider's homestead is in the local service area of the agency or entity for which the provider was a volunteer.



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The bill also specifies the method of apportioning the abatement among each applicable levy and special assessment.

The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies retroactively to assessment years beginning on or after January 1, 2023.

### **SF 312 Firefighter License Plates**

#### **Introduced by Senator Dickey and referred to Transportation**

This bill limits the annual registration fee for a vehicle displaying fire fighter special registration plates and owned by an eligible volunteer fire fighter to \$100. The limited annual registration fee applies to only one vehicle per household. In order to qualify, the volunteer fire fighter must have served for at least five years, receive compensation of less than \$5,000 per year for service as a volunteer fire fighter, actively attend and participate in monthly meetings, trainings, responses, and other duties, and meet any additional requirements established by the public entity that the volunteer fire fighter serves.

### **SF 313 Firefighter training requirements**

#### **Introduced by Senator Dickey and referred to State Government**

This bill relates to continued annual training requirements for certain volunteer fire fighters. Under current law, the fire service training bureau offers programs to volunteer, trainee, or employed fire fighters with minimum instruction requirements for certification. The bill provides that a member of a volunteer fire department may be deemed to have completed the member's continued annual training requirements upon completion of 75 percent of the required training hours if the person has served as a volunteer fire fighter for at least 10 years, receives no more than \$5,000 in annual compensation for service as a volunteer fire fighter, serves a population of less than 20,000, and has approval from the chief of the volunteer fire department.





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