



**Week 12- March 27-March 31**  
**Iowa Firefighters Association**  
**Chuck Raska, President & IFA Board**

**CALL TO ACTION HIGHLIGHTED IN GREEN**

**HOW TO FIND YOUR LEGISLATOR?**

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators/find>

**enter your address and the information will pop up!**

**HOW TO FIND A BILL?**

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/findLegislation>

**on the right hand side enter the bill number and it will pop up for you to read.**

**You can also see the bill history of all the action that has occurred**

**REMEMBER: If the bill is in Ways & Means or Approps committees nit is FUNNEL PROOF**

**A BILL PLACED ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS CALENDAR BUYS SOME MORE TIME AND KEEPS IT ALIVE.**

**ALL DEAD BILLS WILL BE REMOVED ON NEXT WEEKS UPDATE**

**Bills of interest to IFA**

**Action this week in noted ion RED**

**HSB 19/ HF 193/HF 340 LOSAP**

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

HF 193 PASSED Approps sub and full committee.

PASSED House floor unanimously

**SENATE SF 272/ SF 447: Senator Tom Shipley will sponsor this bill**

Passed Sub and full committee: Chair: Shipley, Green and Knox

**The subcommittee was assigned to: CHAIR Zumbach, Kraayenbrink and Giddens**



PASSED SUB COMMITTEE 3-0

It now needs to pass the full Approps committee which has not been scheduled yet. We are funnel proof

**ACTION ITEM:**

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**THE CHAIR OF APPROPS IS [tim.kraavenbrink@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:tim.kraavenbrink@legis.iowa.gov)**

**VICE CHAIR IS [dan.zumbach@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:dan.zumbach@legis.iowa.gov)**

**You can see the whole committee here:**

**<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/committees/committee?ga=90&groupID=324>**

The LAST two steps for LOSAP IS TO PASS THE FULL Approps committee and the Senate floor.

Then it will go to the Governor! We are close but still have two hurdles to get over.

### **SF 43/SF 174 Building Code Changes (Local Gov)**

#### **HF 490**

Subcommittee of Webster, Green, Quirnbach

Passed Sub & full Local Gov Committee

On debate calendar

#### **Amendment filed regarding residential building design elements**

#### **NO ACTION-DID NOT MAKE THE SECOND FUNNEL**

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 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 126/HF 662/SF 514 Department Re-organization bill**

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

**PASSED Sub and Full committees**

**Passed House 58-39**

**Passed Senate 34-15**

**To Gov**



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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**

Schultz, Bisignano, Boulton, Boussetot, Webster

PASSED SUB AND FULL committee

**SSB 1124/SF 356 Department Re-organization bill**

Dawson, Jochum, Klemish, Koelker and Petersen

PASSED Sub AND FULL committee

Fiscal Note released

No Action this week

**PUT ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS CALENDAR  
IN WAYS AND MEANS-FUNNEL PROOF**

**SSB 1125/SF 550 Department Re-organization bill**

**PASSED Sub and full committee Dawson, Driscoll, Jochum, Koelker, Winkler**

**In Ways and Means**

**PUT ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS CALENDAR-FUNNEL PROOF**

**SSB 1001/SF 183 Maximum age**

**Passed sub**

**Passed full committee**

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

**Public Safety sub: Gustoff, Abdul-ASamad, Fisher**

**Subcommittee in House scheduled 3/14 at 12:30**

**Passed House sub and full committee**

**On House calendar**

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.



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

Passed sub and full committee, ready for floor debate

**NO ACTION THIS WEEK-DEAD**

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/SF 352 Funding of EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Passed sub and full committee

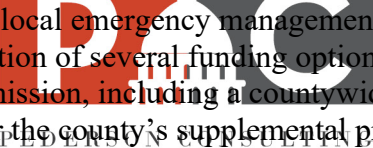
Referred to Ways & Means committee

**Subcommittee passed**

**HF 126/HF 546 Funding of EMA**

Passed sub and full committee

**WAYS AND MEANS-funnel proof**



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

**NO ACTION**

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 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/SF 454 CIVIL SERVICE POLICE & FF HIRES (Local Government)**

PASSED SUB and FULL COMMITTEES

READY FOR FLOOR DEBATE

**Two Amendments filed-DEAD**

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

**SF 113 /SF 555 PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY PROVIDER**

Subcommittee members : Senators, Dickey, Dawson and Petersen

Passed sub and full committee  
**WAYS & MEANS bill**  
Placed on unfinished business calendar



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.

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 313 Firefighter training requirements**

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

**Passed Sub and full committee with amendment, which has not been shared**

**NO ACTION THIS WEEK-DEAD**

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.

**HF 418/HF603 VOLUNTEER TIRE PURCHASES** (Wood, 16 R's) (Transportation)  
INTRODUCED

PASSED SUB and FULL COMMITTEES

Passed House Approps

PASSED HOUSE FLOOR

Passed Senate Local Gov sub and full committee

Passed SENATE Approps sub and full committee. Now goes to Senate FLOOR. The Senate amended this bill to only give this benefit to you every 3 years and to also exclude the RESERVE officers from this benefit. So that means if it passes the SENATE FLOOR IT MUST GO BACK TO THE House floor to be approved.

Limits a volunteer firefighter and EMS to the purchase of one set of tires under the DAS master contract. This puts the cost savings directly into your pocket when you buy new tires.

**HF 531 VOLUNTEER TAX CREDITS** (Jacoby) (Ways & Means)

Increases the income tax credits for volunteer FF, EMS and Reserve peace officers to \$1,000.

**FUNNEL PROOF**

Ways and Means

No action this week

**\*SF 299 / SF 539 TREATING POLICE DOGS**

Allows an EMS worker to treat an injured police dog if the dog is severely injured and in need of immediate medical attention. Does not require an EMS worker to treat a police dog and exempts the worker from any liability.

AMENDED & PASSED 17-0; FM: Reichman

On debate calendar

DEAD-No action in the House

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE IFA GOLF TOURNEY IN  
STATE CENTER ON  
APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>**

Here is the

link: <https://www.iowafirefightersassociation.com/golf-tournament>

***As always, let us know if you have any questions.....see you at Mid-year~  
John & Cyndi [pedersonconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:pedersonconsulting@gmail.com) 515-229-4748***

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**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO EMAILED OR CAME TO DES MOINES TO  
ADVOCATE FOR THESE BILLS LAST WEEK. THE END OF SESSION IS  
IS WINDING DOWN SO IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP ADVOCATING.**

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**WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY TYPOS IN THESE REPORTS AS THEY ARE  
GENERALLY WRITTEN LATE AT NIGHT OR ON THE FLY BETWEEN  
MEETINGS.**