



**Week 17- May 1st-May 4th**  
**Iowa Firefighters Association**  
**Chuck Raska, President & IFA Board**

**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

**Bills of interest to IFA**

Action this week in noted ion RED

**LOSAP**

**LOSAP was planned to be added to a strike through amendment to the ATE bill (SF ). It was scheduled to be brought up at the Ways and Means committee on Wed morning and then put on the floor later that day. When they caucused before the meeting there was too much controversy among the Republicans regarding the ATE part of the bill that they decided to pull the bill and not run it. DEAD and so frustrating!**

**LOSAP has seemed to take a turn.....the Senate did not like the funding source from the lottery so they have been looking at other options.) The Senate suggested making LOSAP the beneficiary of approx. 10% of the proceeds from the ATE (automatic traffic enforcement ) fines. The Senate also would like to make changes to the current ATE program but I feel they are trying to end the session and may not have time to get that bill through. The easiest way to save LOSAP now is to simply take the existing LOSAP bill (SF 447) and write an amendment to remove the language regarding lottery funds and replace it with an amendment to use 10% of the ATE funds from the current program.**

### **HSB 19/ HF 193/HF 340**

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 APPROPS SUB COMMITTEE 3-0

Needs to pass full Approps, Senate Floor

### **HF 418/HF603 VOLUNTEER TIRE PURCHASES (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 excluded 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.

**Passed the House floor debate unanimously! Now to the Governor to sign.**

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.

**The House did not advance this bill.**

## **CHAPTER 411**

**SF 505**

**HF 687**

IN WAYS & MEANS- passed full committee

On unfinished business calendar

This bill relates to police officers and fire fighters concerning civil service entrance evaluations and benefits for members of the municipal fire and police retirement system

**The Senate did not run this on the floor.**

### **SSB 1124/SF 356 Property Tax Levy Limits (Ways and Means)**

Dawson, Jochum, Klemish, Koelker and Petersen

PASSED Sub AND FULL committee

**Fiscal Note released**

**PUT ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS CALENDAR**

## **SSB 1125/SF 550 TAX BILL**

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

**In Ways and Means**

**PUT ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS CALENDAR**

## **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**

**PASSED BOTH HOUSE AND SENATE-Signed by the Governor**

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.

## **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

**House and Senate did not move this bill forward.**

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

**This sub-committee never met.**

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

Subcommittee members : Senators, Dickey, Dawson and Petersen

Passed sub and full committee (Ways & Means committee)

Placed on unfinished business calendar

**This bill never made it to the floor for debate**

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.

As you may have heard on the news the legislature passed a bill to lower all Iowans property taxes. You can read about this legislation by going to HF 718. SEE ABOVE DIRECTIONS HOW TO FIND LEGISLATION.

The session basically focused on the Governors and Legislatures priorities and both the House and Senate left 17 pages each of policy bills on the table. Since this is the first of a biannual legislative year you can bet those bills will be back next session.

As always, if you have questions, please contact us at: [pedersonconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:pedersonconsulting@gmail.com) or call us at 515-229-4748.

If you have ideas for items you would like to see us work on please contact a board member or let us know.

Have a good summer!

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO ADVOCATE FOR YOUR FIRE  
DEPARTMENT AND BENEFITS FOR YOU AS A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER.