

## Eide Walton Legislative Update January 27, 2023

1 message

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**EIDE · WALTON**  
LOBBYING AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

### Legislative Update Week Three

Week three began with the passage and signing of Governor Reynold's top priority legislation, establishing Education Savings Accounts for Iowa students and families to use in non-public schools. The Governor campaigned extensively on this proposal and was actively engaged in the legislative process leading to the quick action by this year's legislature.

**ONE DOWN... MORE TO GO**

Work on this high profile and often controversial legislation dominated the first two weeks of this legislative session. With the bill passed and signed by Tuesday, policy makers began turning their attention to other important policy work. In fact, on Wednesday alone there were more than 60 bills introduced and nearly 30 subcommittee meetings held on a wide variety of policy areas. All indications are this pace will continue in the coming weeks.

### ICAA Priority Legislation Advances

Iowa Community Action Association priority legislation regarding eviction expungement, [HSB 43](#), was considered in a House subcommittee Thursday morning.

Mary Ready, Director of Programs for the Association, spoke in favor of the bill, laying out the clear and concise reasons to support this policy proposal.

The subcommittee members heard testimony from stakeholders, including the Iowa Courts regarding some technical changes. We expect the bill to advance to full committee with amendments and will share the updated information once it is finalized.



**Mary Ready provides testimony during subcommittee**

## Childcare Bills and Tracker

### Childcare Wage Exemption

This week, [HF 47](#) Childcare Wage Exemption, passed a House Ways & Means Subcommittee. The bill exempts from the income tax, the wages received for performing certain childcare services. The bill defines these services. It is now eligible for consideration by the full Committee.

### Childcare Physicals

SSB 1010 Childcare Physicals passed out of the Senate Health and Human Services Policy Committee. It has received a new bill number, [SF 126](#) and is now eligible for consideration by the full Senate Chamber. The bill requires employees of childcare facilities to take a physical within six months prior to starting employment or within 30 days after the start of employment.



### The Childcare Bill Tracker is back!

For a summary of the status of key childcare legislation click [here](#).

## Welfare Reform

A subcommittee was held Thursday to hear testimony on [HF 3](#), a bill that makes changes to the Iowa SNAP program. A range of advocacy groups and Iowans receiving public assistance showed up to voice their concerns about the bill.

HF 3 as it is currently written would make SNAP eligible foods only those currently allowed through WIC, the Women, Infants and Children program. This would ban Iowans from buying a wide variety of foods with SNAP benefits, including meat, butter, sliced cheese, and more. However, Representative Tom Jeneary (R-Le Mars), the chair of the

subcommittee, made clear that he will be introducing an amendment at the committee level that will revise this section to only prohibit candy and soda from being purchased using SNAP. It is important to note that limiting foods that can be purchased with SNAP benefits would require Iowa to get a waiver from the federal government. The USDA has previously denied requests by four other states for similar waivers.

Additional requirements to receive SNAP benefits in the bill include:

- An asset test or asset limit would be established for households of \$2,750 in assets or \$4,250 if at least one member of the household is age 60 or older or is disabled. One vehicle would be excluded, but each additional vehicle exceeding a market value of \$4,650 would be counted.
- Required cooperation with child support for custodial parents.
- Required computerized identity authentication questionnaire.
- Mandatory participation in the SNAP employment and training program

HF 3 passed out of subcommittee on a vote of 2-1 and will next move to the House Health and Human Services committee where we will likely see the amendment.

## ICAA Advocacy at the Capitol



Executive Director of ICAA, Katherine Riley Harrington, has been up to the Capitol this year to advocate on behalf of members.

This week she spoke with several legislators, including Representative Megan Jones (Pictured Left, R-Sioux Rapids) about the Governor's planned government reorganization.

The first week of session, Katherine and ICAA member Dick Sievers, Executive Director of Mid-Sioux Opportunity, talked with Representative Jacob Bossman (R-Woodbury County) and others about reorganization plans.

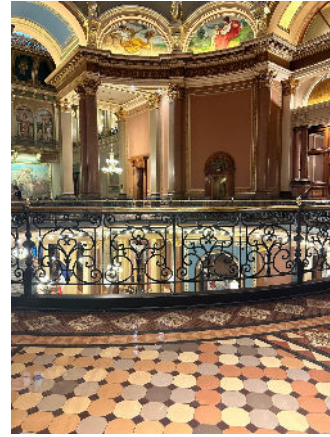


**Kate, Katherine Riley Harrington and Dick Sievers**

## Around the Capitol



**Matt and Kate presented on legislative matters to pharmacists from around the state at the annual Iowa Pharmacy Association's Day on the Hill.**



**A peaceful moment in the rotunda one morning before the hustle and bustle began.**



**Matt visited with newly elected Attorney General Brenna Bird.**

**Please don't hesitate to contact us!**



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