



Mary Ready <mready@iowacommunityaction.org>

Eide Walton Legislative Update March 3, 2023

1 message

Eide Walton <kate@eidewalton.com>
Reply-To: kate@eidewalton.com
To: mready@iowacommunityaction.org

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EIDE · WALTON
LOBBYING AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Legislative Update Week Eight

1st Funnel Deadline

This week marks the end of the first funnel deadline. To date, the focus of the legislature has been on subcommittee and full committee work. This week's deadline will help reduce the number of bills under consideration by the House and Senate and assist in prioritizing legislative work for the remainder of the session.



Budget Takes Center Stage

This also marks the time in the session where attention is turned to the budget process. The Revenue Estimating Conference will meet this month which will allow leadership to set budget targets. Our newsletter information will also shift focus to more budget reporting in the coming weeks.

State Government Reorganization

Lawmakers from the House State Government Committee were at the Capitol late into the night Thursday debating [HSB 126](#), the House version of the State Government Reorganization bill. The bill, which is 1,600 pages long, proposes consolidating 37 cabinet-level state agencies into 16.



Last night, Democrats attempted to make some changes to the House bill by proposing more than 40 amendments to address their concerns. Republicans voted them all down, but agreed that they would address some of the issues in the bill before its final passage. Though scheduled to start at 1:00, the State Government Committee ended up adjourning well past midnight.

The Senate's State Government Reorganization bill, [SSB 1123](#) passed committee last week and was renumbered as [SF 514](#).

Eviction Expungement

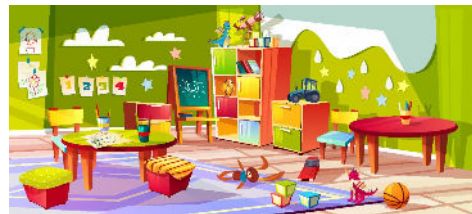
[HSB 43](#) and [SSB 1118](#) deal with the sealing of eviction records. SSB 1118 passed out of the subcommittee last week on a vote of 3-0. However, it was not taken up by the full Senate Judiciary Committee and so, it did not survive the funnel.



HSB 43 did pass out of the House Judiciary Committee and has received a new bill number, [HF 548](#). It remains eligible for consideration at this time.

Childcare Bills Update and Tracker

There was not much movement on childcare bills again this week.



Earlier in session, two companion bills were introduced to require employees of childcare facilities to take a physical with six months of starting employment or within 30 days of starting employment. Only [SF 126](#) remains eligible after the first funnel deadline.

[HF 51](#) relating to childcare payments when a child is absent, also failed to meet the first funnel deadline. Check out the Childcare Spotlight Tracker below, to refresh on what is still eligible for consideration.



Short Title	Description	Current Status	Policy Notes (if applicable)
Children's Wage Exemption	Exempts from the minimum for the wages received by performing certain childcare services. Defines such services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HF 3 in House Ways and Means. Passed subcommittee on 3/1/23. Higher for non-caregiver work. 	Read More
Childcare Payments	Requires employers of childcare facilities to take a personal will no records of working requirements or within 30 days of working employees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HF 3 in House HHS Policy. Passed subcommittee. Eligible for consideration by the full committee. SF 494 in Senate HHS Policy. Passed committee. Received new bill number. Eligible for consideration by the full Senate Chamber. 	
Childcare Payments	Requires HHS to amend its rules to make childcare assistance payments for a child covered under the program on days the child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HF 3 in House HHS Policy. 	

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

Public Assistance Oversight

SF 494 (formerly SSB 1105) and **HF 3** passed out of their respective HHS Policy Committees this week. Two House Republicans (Rep. Eddie Andrews and Rep. Brian Lohse) joined all the House Democrats in voting against HF 3. SF 494 passed Senate Committee on a party line vote.



Both bills were amended to make a variety of changes:

1. The proposed asset limit for SNAP will be \$15,000 in liquid assets. One vehicle is excluded, and up to \$10,000 in value is excluded from a second vehicle.
2. The income threshold for families receiving food assistance was defined at 160% of the federal poverty level. This is the current threshold for SNAP. For a family of four, this equates to a household income of around \$48,000.
3. The custodial parent cooperation with child support requirement for SNAP has been removed but remains for Medicaid.

The Senate and House bills as amended are not identical. The House Bill requires all ABAWD's (Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents) to participate in SNAP E&T, including those who already meet the work requirement of 20 hours per week. The House bill also bars SNAP recipients from buying candy and soda. The Double Up Food Bucks appropriation of \$1 million remains but is contingent on getting waiver approval for the candy and soda ban.

The House and Senate chambers will have to come to an agreement on language for the bills to progress. They are both eligible for debate as early as next week.

Did You Know? Freedom Rocks and Chucks

Some people are just born cool, you know?

We feel that way about Rep. Ray "Bubba" Sorensen (R-Greenfield).

He rocked his Chucks this week which caught the Team's attention but then we remembered his Freedom Rock Tour, too.

Have you heard of it?



...the stars of the show!

The full ensemble...



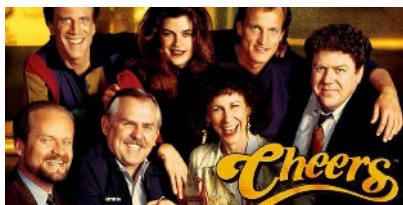
The Freedom Rock is a large boulder located in rural Iowa that is repainted every year with a different *Thank You* for our nation's Veterans to honor their service to our country. Rep. Sorensen, was inspired by the movie *Saving Private Ryan*, as well as, wanting to give Veterans a unique recognition on Memorial Day.

To read more about how this act of gratitude has taken off visit: www.thefreedomrock.com.

Around the Capitol

Cheers to us! We survived first funnel!

The Team treated themselves to much deserved spirits at local watering holes where everybody knows your name.



Kate and Maddy, feeling the



Matt found himself a corner stool in



Earlier in the day, Matt treated himself to ice

stress melt away.

the East Village of Des Moines.

cream, too.

Please don't hesitate to contact us!



EIDE • WALTON
 LOBBYING AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

MATT EIDE
 (515) 490-8559 (Cell)
 matt@eidewalton.com

KATE WALTON
 (515) 664-7457 (Cell)
 kate@eidewalton.com

[Visit our Website](#)

Eide Walton Lobbying and Government Relations | 329 43rd Street, Des Moines, IA 50312

[Unsubscribe mready@iowacommunityaction.org](mailto:mready@iowacommunityaction.org)

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