

# Iowa Valley Community College District 2021 Legislative Updates

By Cindy S. Schulte, IVCCD Director of Governmental Affairs



## Legislative Week 13

### HOUSE RELEASES THEIR FY22 EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS BILL

On Wednesday, April 7th, the Iowa House released their version of the FY22 Education Appropriations bill. The FY22 funding bill for education appropriates nearly \$970,357,588 and reflects an increase in state funding of \$24.4-million. The appropriations in the bill are as follows:

- Iowa Community College State General Aid (SGA) – increase of \$6-million or at \$214,690,889
- FRI Last Dollar Scholarship Program – increase of \$10-million or at \$23,004,744
- Postsecondary Summer Classes for High School Students – same level as LY or at \$600,000
- Adult Education and Literacy Grant Program – same level as LY or at \$500,000
- Iowa Skilled Worker Shortage Tuition Grant (Formerly Kibbie Grant) – same level as LY or at \$5-million
- Iowa Worker and Job Creation Fund – same level as LY or at \$15.1-million
- Adult Education and Literacy Program – at same level as LY or at \$5.5-million (Adult Basic Education programs at same level as LY or at \$1,257,000)
- ACE Infrastructure – same level as LY or at \$6-million
- PACE Program – same level as LY or at \$5-million
- GAP Tuition Assistance Program – same level as LY or at \$2-million
- Statewide Intermediary Learning Network Fund – at same level as LY or at \$1.5-million
- DE Workforce Preparation Outcome Reporting System – at same level as LY or at \$200,000
- Regent Institutions – same level as LY or no increase in State General Aid
- Iowa School for the Deaf – increase of \$242,000
- Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School – increase of \$102,000
- Iowa College Student Aid Commission – increase of \$300,000
- Iowa Tuition Grant Program – increase of \$1.9-million
- Vocational Technical Tuition Grant - \$1.8-million or same level of funding as LY
- Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG) Program – increase of \$1.4-million
- Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services – increase of \$300,000

- Iowa Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) – increase of \$100,000

### SENATE RELEASES THEIR FY22 STATE BUDGET

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, the Iowa Senate Republicans released their FY22 budget targets which totaled \$7.999-billion or an increase in state funding of \$195-million. The budget represented 94% of available state revenue and included provisions to eliminate the triggers in the 2018 tax bill, the phasing out of the inheritance tax, and significant property tax relief (elimination of the mental health levy on property taxes). Other provisions included an increase in public safety, an increase of \$4-million for correctional officers, and a \$60-million increase for mental health funding. Other provisions include:

- An increase of \$80-million for K-12 education
- An increase of \$25-million for higher education and for the FRI Last Dollar Scholarship Program
- An increase of \$98.1-million for providers in nursing homes and home and community-based service providers and mental health services
- An increase of \$5-million for the Iowa Department of Safety

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- An increase of \$4-million for the Iowa Department of Corrections

## **MARCH STATE REVENUES REFLECT CONTINUED GROWTH**

March revenues reflected an increase of \$111.5-million in comparison to March 2020 or an increase of 32.4%. Personal Income Tax grew by 3.7%, Sales and Use Tax grew by 5.1%, and Corporate Income Tax grew by 17.2%.

At the March 2021 meeting, the Iowa Revenue Estimating Conference (REC) reported their forecast of a 1.8% growth rate for the current fiscal year.

## **LEGISLATION THAT MOVED DURING WEEK 13**

### ***Freedom of Speech and Expression***

House File (HF) 744 - A bill for an act providing for training, prohibitions, and requirements relating to first amendment rights at school districts and universities governed by the state board of regents. Passed out of the Senate on 4/7 and moves back to the House for consideration.

### ***Informational Technology***

House File (HF) 848 - A bill for an act relating to broadband service, including matters under the purview of the office of the chief information officer, the empower rural Iowa broadband grant fund. Passed out of the Senate on 4/7 and moves back to the House for consideration.

### ***Property Tax Financing***

Senate File (SF) 587 - A bill for an act relating to state and local government financing, programs, and operations, by modifying provisions relating to mental health and disability services funding, school district funding, commercial and industrial property tax replacement payments, and other specified tax provisions. Passed out of the Senate on 4/7 and moves to the House for consideration. (Eliminates the Mental Health Property Tax Levy)

For more information about the activity during the 2021 legislative session, please contact:

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