

# Iowa Valley Community College District 2021 Legislative Updates

By Cindy S. Schulte, IVCCD Director of Governmental Affairs



## Legislative Week 14

### SESSION TIMETABLE

The last day of the session is April 30, 2021, which represents the 110<sup>th</sup> day of activity.

**House File (HF) 868** – Education Appropriations – Has been placed on the House Calendar for Debate on Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

### NEW LEGISLATION FILED

**House File (HF) 871** – Economic Development Appropriations – Creates a new \$1.8-million General Fund appropriations for FY22 to the Iowa Economic Development Authority for the Community College Jobs Training Program to provide funds for the payment of the costs of a training program by businesses.

### LEGISLATION SIGNED INTO LAW BY GOVERNOR

**House File (HF) 559** – HF 559 relates to financial assistance provided by the Iowa Economic Development Authority to certain apprenticeship sponsors and lead apprenticeship sponsors and was signed into law by Governor Reynolds on April 12<sup>th</sup>. The bill relates to financial assistance provided by the economic development authority to certain apprenticeship sponsors and lead

apprenticeship sponsors. Under the bill, the EDA will provide financial assistance in the form of training grants to eligible apprenticeship sponsors or lead apprenticeship sponsors. Contact hours means the number of hours of in-person instruction received by an apprentice participating in an apprenticeship program.

### LEGISLATION THAT MOVED DURING WEEK 14

#### Workforce Training

**House File (HF) 857** - Butchery Innovation and Revitalization Fund and Program - House File 857 creates the *Butchery Innovation and Revitalization Fund and Program* to be administered by IEDA in consultation with IDALS. The fund must be used to provide financial assistance which is defined to include assistance in the form of grants, low-interest loans, and forgivable loans. Currently, the House Economic Development Budget includes an appropriation for the fund of \$750,000. IEDA must establish and administer the program for the purpose of awarding assistance to eligible businesses for projects that expand or refurbish, or that establish a new, state or federally inspected small-scale meat processing businesses licensed custom lockers, or mobile slaughter units. IEDA must establish eligibility criteria for the program by rule.

IEDA is to give priority to eligible businesses whose proposed project will create new jobs; create or expand opportunities for local small-scale farmers to market processed meat under private labels; or provide greater flexibility or convenience for local small-scale farmers to have animals processed.

The bill also creates an artisanal butchery program task force within IDALS for the purpose of exploring the feasibility of establishing a **community college** and/or regent university **artisanal butchery program**. Members of the task force are appointed by Ag Secretary. Under the bill, the task force is to submit a report by December 31, 2021 to the general assembly that includes the task force's findings and recommendations.

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

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