

Iowa Valley Community College District 2021 Legislative Updates

By Cindy S. Schulte, IVCCD Director of Governmental Affairs



Legislative Week 17

DE STATE BOARD AGENDA

On Friday, April 6th, the Iowa Department of Education's State Board met and included the following items under their Consent agenda:

- Adoption of rules Iowa Chapter 281 IAC Chapter 48 under the Iowa Statewide Work-Based Learning Intermediary Program - <https://educateiowa.gov/sites/files/ed/documents/2021-05-06%20Chapter%2048%20Rules.pdf>
- Notice of Rules under Iowa Chapter 28 – 281 IAC – Iowa Senior Year Plus Program - <https://educateiowa.gov/sites/files/ed/documents/2021-05-06%20Chapter%2022%20Rules.pdf>
- Notice of Rules under Iowa Chapter 46 – Iowa Career and Technical Education – <https://educateiowa.gov/sites/files/ed/documents/2021-05-06%20Chapter%2046%20Rules.pdf>
- Release of the certified Iowa Community College FY22 Budget Report - <https://educateiowa.gov/sites/files/ed/documents/2020-05-06%20FY22%20CC%20Certified%20Budget%20Report.pdf>

- Release of Iowa Community College Annual Condition of Secondary Education Report - <https://educateiowa.gov/sites/files/ed/documents/2021-05-06%20Secondary%20CTE%20Report.pdf>

LEGISLATION SENT TO THE GOVERNOR

House File (HF) 889 – Vaccine Passports – Prohibits government and businesses from requiring proof of COVID vaccinations, documentation that verifies that a person has been vaccinated, or the use of “vaccine passports” from individuals to enter buildings. Certain health care settings (health and long-term care facilities) would be allowed to require proof of vaccination, but government agencies and/or state and local governments, public venues, and businesses would not be required to do so. Any business in the state that requires proof of vaccination from customers, clients, or others will become ineligible for state contracts. Sent to the Governor on 5/5.

House File (HF) 802 – Stereotyping Training Ban

(Racism Training) – The bill adds a new section in the Iowa Code Section 261H.7 – **Race and Sex Stereotyping – Training by Institution Prohibited**. HF 802 provides requirements related to racism or sexism trainings, and to diversity and inclusion efforts, at or by school districts and public postsecondary educational institutions. HF 802 lists “specified defined concepts” that cannot be taught in mandatory training efforts and in K-12 school curriculum. On April 28th, an amendment was approved in the Iowa Senate which would allow training leaders to answer questions pertaining to divisive topics, now called “specific defined concepts” in addition to policies which result in sexism, racism, segregation or oppression. Every institution of higher education may continue training that fosters a workplace and learning environment that is respectful of all employees and students. However, the President, Vice Presidents, Deans, Department Directors, or any other Administrator of a public institution of higher education shall ensure that any mandatory staff or student training provided by an employee of the institution or by a contractor hired by the institution does not to teach, advocate, act upon, or promote divisive concepts. “Race or Sex Stereotyping” means ascribing character traits, values, moral and technical codes, privileges, status,

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or beliefs to a race or sex, or to an individual because of the individual's race or sex. Sent to the Governor on 5/5.

House File (HF) 744 – Education First Amendment – The bill provides for first amendment rights training, prohibitions, and requirements at or by school districts and higher education institutions. Each institution of higher education shall provide training on free speech under the first amendment to the U. S. Constitution to all students, faculty, and staff on an annual basis. The bill has an administrative appeals process.

Under the Board of Regents, a new section was added in the bill (Iowa Code Section 261H.7) called the **Student Government Organizations – Student Fees – Appeals – Liability**. If the it is determined as of the result of an appeals process by the student organization, the student organization knowingly or intentionally violated the first amendment rights of a member of the campus community or that an action or decision of a student government organization is in violation of this section, the institution shall suspend the student organization's authority to manage and disburse student fees for a period of one year and managed and disbursed by the institution. Sent to the Governor on 5/5.

Senate File (SF) 562 – Crime of Sexual Exploitation - Senate File 562 provides that an adult providing training or instruction commits sexual exploitation when either of the following occur: * When a person engages in a pattern, practice, or scheme of conduct to engage in any sexual conduct with a minor for the purpose of arousing or satisfying the sexual desire of the adult providing training or instruction. * When a person engages in sexual conduct with a minor for the purpose of arousing or satisfying the sexual desire of the adult providing training or instruction.

A person who engages in a pattern, practice, or scheme of conduct to engage in any sexual conduct with a minor for the purpose of arousing or satisfying the sexual desire of the adult providing training or instruction is guilty of a Class D felony. A person who engages in sexual conduct with a minor for the purpose of arousing or satisfying the sexual desire of the adult providing training or instruction is guilty of an aggravated misdemeanor. The bill was sent to the Governor on 5/7.

HOUSE ACTION ON LEGISLATION FOR WEEK 17

House File (HF) 868 – FY22 Education Appropriations – HF 868 appropriates \$214,690,889 for FY22 Community College State

General Aid (SGA). Under the bill, IVCCD (Merged Area VI) will receive \$9,484,668. An appropriation of \$40.3-million supports funding for the Iowa Skilled Worker Training Funds. Under HF 868, the Governor's Future Ready Iowa Last Dollar Scholarship program was appropriated an additional \$10-million in state funding.

Regent Institutions – Under HF 868, Iowa Regent Institutions would not receive and increase in state funding and would be required to not raise tuition. Other Regent provisions under the measure include:

- For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, the state board of regents and the institutions of higher learning governed by the state board are prohibited from reducing moneys budgeted for fiscal year 2021-2022 for the universities' police departments.
- INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE — REGENTS UNIVERSITIES. The legislative council is requested to establish an interim study committee to examine the administrative costs, staffing levels, and allocation of staff at the institutions of higher

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learning governed by the state board of regents, as well as the graduation and student retention rates for each academic program at each such institution of higher learning. The interim study committee shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations, to the general assembly by December 15, 2021, for the 2022 legislative session.

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

Cindy Schulte, Director of Governmental Affairs
Cindy.Schulte@iavalley.edu or
call: Cell: 641.485.4456
Office: 641.844.5602