

Iowa Valley Community College District 2017 Legislative Updates

By Cindy S. Schulte, IVCCD Director of Governmental Affairs



Week of April 17th

IOWA LEGISLATURE ADJOURNS

On Saturday, April 22, the Iowa Legislature adjourned for the 2017 session (six days earlier than required). A total of \$7.269 billion was appropriated for the FY18 budget and \$625.1 million was left in the “rainy day” or reserved fund. A total of \$248 million was cut from the FY17 state budget during the session as the result of declining state revenues.

During the session, the Governor signed Senate File (SF) 130 (De-appropriations bill), which reduced community college FY17 SGA funding by \$3 million and directed the Iowa Department of Management to identify \$11.5 million in unspecified operational reductions. After the action of the Governor, there was a notification that additional state cuts were in order, including a \$1.75 million cut to community college SGA. The total cut to community college FY17 SGA was \$4.75 million, with a total funding of \$199,540,605.

In the FY18 education appropriation bill, Iowa’s community colleges ended up receiving \$201,190,889, which is \$3,099,716 less than the FY17 SGA level of funding. The funding for faculty supplemental salaries was discontinued and that

\$500,000 was rolled into the SGA base. A total of \$500,000 was reduced from the FY17 appropriation for the Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant program. The Regional Telecommunication Council funding was zeroed out with no future funding.

The Regent institutions were cut a total of \$30.7 million or 5.1% from their FY17 level of funding (ISU was cut \$11,524,861 or 6.3%, Iowa was cut \$15,463,938 or 6.7%, and UNI was cut \$3,345,370 or 3.4%).

The Iowa Tuition Grant program for the private colleges was cut \$2.8 million or 5.5%, and the AEAs were cut \$15 million. The K-12 sector received an increase in state supplemental funding of 1.1% or \$40 million.

2017 LEGISLATION SENT TO THE GOVERNOR

House File 642 – Education Appropriations. Referred to the House Appropriation Committee. Sent to the Governor on 4/18.

House File 643 – Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF) Appropriations. Sent to the Governor on 4/19.

Senate File 274 – Computer Science Education encouraging school districts to provide computer science courses in grades K-12, requires standards for such classes be developed and

creates opportunities for training in this area. Sent to the Governor on 4/19.

House File 569 – An Act concerning authorized investment vehicles in a tax-sheltered investment program established by the Iowa Department of Administrative Services. Sent to the Governor on 4/12.

House File 566 – An Act relating to political subdivision elections by changing the date of the election of directors of local school districts, merged areas, and area education agency boards by providing for the combined administration of regular and special school and city elections, making changes to the administration of elections for political subdivisions located in more than one county, and establishing requirements for ballot arrangement and placement for political subdivision offices.

The bill was filed by Representative Highfill. Passed out of the House on 3/23 and passed out of the Senate and sent to the Governor on 4/10.

INACTIVE LEGISLATION FOR THIS SESSION

House File 648 – An Act relating to career and technical education programs and partnerships and including effective date provisions. Referred to the House Appropriation subcommittee of R. Taylor, Rogers and Bearinger on

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4/4. passed out of the House Appropriation Committee on 4/12.

House File 514 – *An Act modifying the membership of the Iowa College Student Aid Commission.* Filed by the Iowa College Student Aid Commission and voted out of the House Education Committee on 3/1. The bill was re-referred to the House Education Committee on 4/4.

House File 265 – *An Act prohibiting the state, counties, cities, and certain postsecondary educational institutions from limiting or restricting enforcement of federal immigration laws and the establishment of sanctuary cities.* The bill was filed by the House Public Safety Committee and was voted out of the committee on 2/7. The bill was re-referred to the House Public Safety Committee on 4/4.

House File 652 – *An Act relating to state revenue and finance limiting the total amount of certain tax expenditures that may be claimed in a fiscal year, providing for transfers to the taxpayers trust fund, and eliminating the refundability of Iowa tax credits, including effective date and applicability provisions.* The bill was filed by the House Appropriations Committee and was referred to a Ways & Means subcommittee of Vander Linden, Pettengill, and Jacoby on 4/18.

Senate File 475 – *Education Regulation Omnibus – Makes numerous regulatory changes in the areas of the Iowa Department of Education control over local district operations, dental and vision screening requirements, online learning, community college courses for high school students, fees for open enrollment, and accreditation of nonpublic schools.* Referred to the House Unfinished Business Calendar on 4/18.

Senate File 349 – *Iowa Tuition Grant – Removes the individual student cap for maximum award on the Iowa Tuition Grant of \$6,000.* Passed out of the House Education Committee on 3/15.

House File 474 – *An Act relating to the disposition or modification of uncollectible student debt owed to the Iowa College Student Aid Commission.* Filed by the Iowa College Student Aid Commission and passed out of the House Education Committee on 2/22; it was re-referred to the House Education Committee on 4/4.

LEGISLATION SIGNED INTO LAW

House File 306 – *An Act relating to the requirements for nurse aide training and testing programs provided by or in a nursing facility.* The bill was filed by Rep. Dave Heaton (R-Mt. Pleasant) and was voted out of the House on 3/13 and out of the Senate Human

Resource Committee on 3/22. The bill passed out of the Senate and signed by the Governor's Office on 4/12.

House File 572 – *An Act relating to employment services programs administered by the Department of Workforce Development by modifying the membership requirements of the Iowa Workforce Development Board and authorizing the department to carry out unemployment insurance systems modernization, making appropriations, and including effective date provisions.* Signed by the Governor on 4/13.

House File 473 – *An Act relating to high school equivalency programs and assessments and including effective date provisions.* Filed by the Iowa Department of Education, the bill passed out of the Senate with S-amendment 3287 on 4/10 and was messaged to the House for consideration. Signed by the Governor on 4/21.

Senate File 438 – *An Act relating to bidding and contracting for public improvement projects, making penalties applicable, and including effective date and applicability provisions.* Signed by the Governor of 4/13.

House File 518 – *An Act relating to worker's compensation and including effective date and applicability provisions.* The bill

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was signed by the Governor on 3/30.

Senate File 130 – *An Act relating to the public funding and regulatory matters and making, reducing, transferring, and supplementing appropriations for expenditures in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, and including effective date provisions.*

The bill was filed by the Governor's Office and was signed into law on 2/1.

Committee and was signed into law on 2/17.

For more information about the activity during the 2017 legislative session please contact:
Cindy Schulte, Director of Governmental Affairs

Cindy.Schulte@iavalley.edu or
Cell: 641.485.4456
Office: 641.844.5602

Senate File 166 – *An Act relating to the state school foundation program and including effective date and applicable provisions.*

The bill was filed by the Senate Appropriations Committee and was signed into law by the Governor on 2/8.

House File 231 – *An Act relating to the powers and programs of the Iowa Economic Development Authority (EDA), including apprentice eligibility under the apprenticeship training program.*

The bill was filed by the EDA and was signed into law on 3/1.

House File 291 – *An Act relating to employment matters involving public employees including collective bargaining, educator employment matters, personnel records and settlement agreements, city civil service requirements, and health insurance matters.* The bill was filed by the House Labor