

# Iowa Valley Community College District 2019 Legislative Updates

By Cindy S. Schulte, IVCCD Director of Governmental Affairs



## *Week of February 4, 2019*

### **PUBLIC MEASURE LEGISLATION FILED**

On Wednesday, Feb. 6, Senate File 183 was filed and referred to the Senate Local Government Committee. The bill requires all propositions to authorize the issuance of bonds by a county, township, school corporation, city, or any local board or commission or the imposition of local option taxes by a city or county to be submitted to electors on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each year. The bill exempts such elections from certain limitations on the withdrawal of public measures from a ballot until January 1, 2020. The bill was filed in the 2018 session and was not signed into law. The subcommittee consists of Senators Edler, Greene, and J. Smith.

### **K-12 FUNDING BILLS ON CALENDAR FOR DEBATE**

Next week, the House and Senate will debate House File 307 and Senate File 171, the public school funding bills. Both bills provide \$90 million (an increase of 2.06%) for per pupil funding under Supplemental State Aid (SSA) to Iowa's school districts. Under the appropriation bills, school districts will receive an increase of \$144/student, from \$6,736 to \$6,880. Both bills include an additional \$7 million to offset transportation costs for school districts with the

highest costs for transporting students to and from school. Last year, the Legislature approved a new appropriation for school districts to support transportation costs that totaled \$11.2 million.

### **GOVERNOR REYNOLDS' FY20 STATE BUDGET**

The Governor's FY20 budget spends \$7.6585 billion or nearly 97.33 percent of ongoing state revenue. Iowa has an expenditure limitation law which requires the Governor and Legislature to spend up to 99% of the level of state revenues recommended by the Iowa Revenue Conference at their meeting held in December of each year. Under the Governor's plan, Iowa will spend nearly \$222 million less than allowed under the limitation law.

The Governor's priority policies are:

- \$10 million – Expanding access to broadband internet in rural Iowa
- \$19.9 million – Future Ready Iowa initiative (Last Dollar Scholarship Program, others)
- \$89.3 million – Investment made in K-12 system
- \$23.9 million – Investment made in higher education
- \$9.5 million – Improve mental health services for children
- \$23.1 million – Invest in state government technology improvements

### **LEGISLATION FILED**

The following bills of importance to community colleges were filed during the 4th week:

**SF209** – *Requires school districts and accredited public schools to offer high school students an opportunity to take the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Naturalization Civics Test. On the Senate Regular Calendar.*

**SF214** – *Relates to establishment of a new deduction for any income of an employee resulting from the payment by an employer on the employee's qualified education loan. Referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee.*

**SF219** – *Relates to an intercollegiate basketball scheduling requirement for institutions of higher learning under the control of the Board of Regents. Referred to the Senate Education Committee.*

**Senate Concurrent Resolution 1** – *Urges Congress to enact legislation to limit the interest rates collected or imposed by the U. S. Department of Education for certain federal student college loans. On the Senate Regular Calendar and will be floored managed by Senator Sweeney.*

**SSB1009** – *Relates to speech and expression at public institutions of higher education. (House companion bill HF276) Referred*

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*to the Senate Education  
subcommittee of Sinclair,  
Kraayenbrink and Quirnbach.*

For more information about  
activity during the 2019 legislative  
session please contact:

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