

Iowa Valley Community College District 2022 Legislative Updates

By Cindy S. Schulte, IVCCD Director of Governmental Affairs



FINAL REPORT OF THE 2022 IOWA LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The 89th General Assembly adjourned on May 24th (35 days from the 100th calendar day of the session) with a total of 1,366 bills filed for legislative action. The following bills were approved by the Iowa Senate and Iowa House members and sent to the office of Governor Reynolds for her consideration to place into Iowa law:

EDUCATION

IMMUNIZATION COVID – 19 REQUIREMENTS FOR ENROLLMENT

House File 2298 prohibits any requirement of immunizations against COVID-19 for a person to be enrolled in any licensed child care center, elementary or secondary school, or postsecondary school in Iowa prior to July 1, 2029.

EVALUATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACULTY

Senate File 2128 pertains to the education of students who are not fully English proficient and the code corrections for Higher Learning Commission (HLC) references in response to adjustments in the process for recognizing accrediting organizations by the U. S.

Department of Education. The bill amends the language in the Iowa Code sections 260C.36 and 260C.48.

FUTURE READY IOWA LAST DOLLAR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ELGIBILITY PROVISIONS

House File 2165 allows part-time eligible students to receive a scholarship from the Future Ready Iowa Last Dollar Scholarship Program fund during the academic year and/or summer semester in an eligible program at an eligible institution. The senate approved an amendment that eliminated language that defined an eligible program as a program of study or an academic major that leads to a credential aligned with employment as an emergency medical technician or as a paramedic.

GIRLS ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

House File 2416 requires an interscholastic athletic team, sport, or athletic event that is sponsored or sanctioned by an accredited nonpublic school, school district or organization to designate that team, sport, or event as females, women, or girls; males, men or boys; or coeducational or mixed. Only female students under the law, based on their sex, may participate in any team, sport, or athletic event designated as being for females, women, or girls.

STATE GOVERNMENT

CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS

House File 2589 contains a section in the bill that bans funds for conducting elections other than public money from federal, state, and local governments. This language was taken from House File 2526 and Senate File 2343 and inserted in the Standing bill (House File 2589) for the session.

GAMBLING REGULATION

House File 2497 regulates to regulation and wagering, sports wagering, and creates a new subsection in Iowa Code Section 99F.1, called “*sports-related event*.” A sports-related event in the bill means an event that takes place in relation to an authorized sporting event, but that is not tied to the outcome of a specific athletic event or contest as authorized by the Commission. Sports wagering does not include placing a wager on the performance or nonperformance of any individual athlete participating in a single game or match of a collegiate sporting event in which a collegiate team from this state is a participant, or placing a wager on the performance of athletes in an individual international sporting event governed by the international Olympic committee in which any participant in the international sporting event is under 18 years of age. A senate amendment struck language in the original bill that defined “*electronic sports events*” as an authorized sporting event

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which would allow anyone 18 years of age or older opportunities to place wagers on sporting events.

ASSESSMENT OF FEES – COPYING OF PUBLIC RECORDS

Senate File 2322 requires that the examination and copying of public records shall be done under the supervision of a lawful custodian of the records or the custodian's authorized designee. The lawful custodian shall make every reasonable effort to provide the public record requested at no cost other than copying costs for a record which takes less than thirty minutes to produce.

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF BIDS FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Senate File 2279 creates a new section in Iowa Code Section 26.7 that requires a notice be given to bidders to provide that bids may be received in an electronic format as determined by the government entity. The government entity will be required to record the date and time the bid was received.

AGRICULTURE

ARTISANAL DAIRY PROCESSING PROGRAM

Senate File 2290 creates a task force under the direction of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) to explore the feasibility of establishing an artisanal dairy

processing program at a Community College.

ARTISANAL BUTCHERY TASK FORCE

House File 2470 adopts and implements recommendations of the Artisanal Butchery Task Force that was provided to the Iowa General Assembly on December 30, 2021. The DE will be required to collaborate with the state board of education to establish the framework for a one-year Community College certificate program for artisanal butchery. The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) will collaborate with the ISU Extension and Outreach to develop and maintain a direct-to-consumer tool kit that contains, at a minimum, the information detailed in the task force report. The IDALS will develop and maintain a directory of meat lockers in Iowa no later than December 31, 2022.

APPROPRIATIONS

EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

House File 2575 (Education Appropriations) appropriates FY23 state funding for education. The following appropriations were made to Community College programs:

C.C. State General Aid - \$221,658,161 or an increase of \$6.5-million or 3.0%

FRI Last Dollar Scholarship Program – \$23,927,005 or an increase of \$922,261 or +0.4% Postsecondary Summer Classes for High School Students Program - \$600,000 (same level as LY)

Adult Education and Literacy Programs - \$500,000 (additional funding added during the 2021 session) (same level as LY)

Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund - \$40.3-million (same level as LY)

- Workforce Training and Economic Development Fund (WTED) - \$15.1 – million
- GAP Tuition Assistance - \$2-million
- PACE - \$5-million
- ACE Infrastructure (260G) - \$6-million
- Statewide Work-Based Learning Intermediary Network Fund - \$1.5-million
- Adult Literacy Programs - \$5.5-million

For more information about the activity during the 2022 legislative session, please contact:

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