January 25, 2019       Week 2       88th General Assembly

Fireworks Deregulation | Massage Therapy | Removal of City Utility Board Members | Standup Scooters | Other Legislation | Legislative Forums | League Updates

Due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday and the winter weather conditions the second week of the legislative session was shortened, leading to a decrease in the number of bills introduced. The shortened week was not without pertinent legislation, both in favor of cities and in opposition to cities. In all, 375 bills were filed in the first two weeks of the legislative session: 208 pieces filed in the House and 167 pieces filed in the Senate.

You need to know

- **Fireworks**: a bill that would preempt local control over the sale of fireworks and the use of fireworks on July 4 passed out of a Senate subcommittee.
- **Legislative Day is February 19**: In addition to providing a training and education component, it is an excellent opportunity to speak with your legislators about the impact active legislation has on your community.
- A subcommittee has been scheduled for **SF49**, a bill that requires county and city property assessors to stand for retention at election, on Monday at 11:30 a.m.
SSB1035 | Fireworks Deregulation

Removes local control to prohibit the sale and use of fireworks for a specific window around July 4. Current law grants cities the authority to zone firework sales and prohibit the use of them within city limits. SSB1035 was passed out of Senate subcommittee.

HSB1 | Massage Therapy

This bill removes a city’s authority to enact or enforce ordinances that restrict massage therapists in any way that is inconsistent with state law. Additionally, it clarifies that operating a massage therapy business without a license is a simple misdemeanor. Companion legislation was filed in the Senate and House simultaneously, with only the House taking up the issue in subcommittee. This bill did not pass out of subcommittee and is likely going to be redrafted in order to preserve local control.

HSB3 | Removal of City Utility Board Members

HSB3 removes the authority of a mayor and council to remove city utility board members under Code of Iowa Section 372.15 and directs this authority to a district court under Code Section 66.1A. This legislation passed out of House subcommittee. The League is working on communicating with committee members the need for elected official oversight as this issue progresses.

SSB1024 | Standup Scooters

This bill does not specifically pre-empt cities from regulating standup scooters. However, the League is monitoring and working with stakeholders and legislators to ensure any legislation passed keeps regulatory authority with cities. Standup electric scooters for rent have been brought to several major U.S. cities, and while they are not in Iowa cities yet, they will be soon. Just like Uber, AirBnB or any number of other modern companies, this industry presents a number of possibilities as well as problems to cities. This bill passed out of
subcommittee and will likely have several more rounds of alterations as the League works with the various parties involved.

Other Legislation

The League is monitoring other legislation that was introduced but has not passed out of subcommittee or has not been assigned to a subcommittee yet.

- **SF52** | An act that requires cities, among others, to provide documents to the public defender’s office free of charge did not pass out of subcommittee.
- **HF41** | Legislation restricting the Department of Transportation from advising cities on how to alter four-lane roads to three-lane roads with additional space for parking or bike lanes was introduced but not assigned a subcommittee.
- **SF49** | Makes county and city assessors stand for retention elections.
- **HSB32** | A bill that would require more burdensome proof to administer fees on utility companies using city right-of-ways. This bill does not yet have a subcommittee.
- **SSB1004** | Prohibits use of automated traffic enforcement categorically.
- **HSB2** | Allows for an alternative project delivery method outside of design, bid, build.
- Several bills have been filed that deal with preventing implicit bias for police and reporting information of police interactions to track possible biases. No subcommittees have been scheduled yet.

Legislative Forums

January 26

**Rep. Willis and Sen. Whiting | Rock Rapids**


**Sen. Craig Johnson and Sen. Michael Breitbach | Arlington**
Rep. Heather Matson | Ankeny

January 28
Rep. Marti Anderson | Des Moines
Rep. Heather Matson | Ankeny

February 1
Sen. Amy Sinclair | Corydon

League Updates

Legislative Day is February 19
Join us in Des Moines for Retain, Attract, Grow, the 2019 Legislative Day. This event at the State Historical Building includes training and speakers for city officials to learn how to retain and attract the talent and tools your city needs to grow. After the morning speakers and a plated lunch join our government affairs team at the Capitol to visit with your legislator, attend a committee meeting or watch floor debate live. If you would like assistance, please contact Daniel Stalder at danielstalder@iowaleague.org.

Thank you for taking the time to read the League’s legislative newsletter, Legislative Link.
As always, Legislative Link is a snapshot of the League’s overall government affairs efforts. It is meant to provide as much information as possible without overwhelming you with the minutia of the legislative process. It is important to know that all of this information including bill numbers, viability, and even the bills contents are constantly changing until they are signed into law by the Governor. If you have any questions about the legislative process in Iowa, if you would like to get more information about legislation listed above, if you would like to know about legislation that is not listed above, or if you want to
learn how you can be more involved in advancing the League’s Legislative Values through grassroots outreach, please contact danielstalder@iowaleague.org.