

Ryan Waller

From: Iowa League of Cities <legislativestaff@iowaleague.org>
Sent: Friday, February 1, 2019 12:15 PM
To: Ryan Waller
Subject: Legislative Link: February 1



Legislative Link

February 1, 2019

Week 3

88th General Assembly

[Assessor Retention Elections](#) | [Documents Provided to Public Defender](#) | [Police Data Collection Training](#) | [Operating Unlicensed Massage Therapy Business](#) | [Fees for Use of Right-of-Way](#) | [Alterations to Criminal Surcharges, Scheduled Violations](#) | [Other Legislation Filed](#) | [Legislative Forums](#) | [League Updates](#)

More legislation is being filed every day now that we are getting closer to the first legislative funnel on March 8. The cold weather didn't shut down the Capitol this week, and legislators held subcommittee meetings and floor debate throughout the week.

You need to know

- [Legislative Day is February 19.](#) In addition to providing a training and educational component, it is an excellent opportunity to speak with your legislators about the impact legislation has on your community.
- The challenge to count 29 mailed votes in House District 55 election ended with a floor vote which split evenly along party lines. Rep. Bergan from Dorchester will continue to represent the 55th House District.

- [HF171](#) would lengthen the number of days an individual must stay in a hotel/motel before they are exempt from the hotel/motel tax – moving the number of days from 31 to 90.

[SF49](#) | **Assessor Retention Elections**

SF49 mandates that every four years city and county assessors stand for retention elections in order to be reappointed to their positions. The League is registered against this bill for concerns over politicizing and altering a well-established and functioning role of assessors. SF49 did not pass out of subcommittee in the Senate, but legislators expressed interest in revisiting the subject this session.

[HF4](#) | **Documents Provided to Public Defenders**

HF4 would require cities, among many other groups, to provide documents to the Public Defender's office at no charge. The League is registered undecided on HF4 and all other companion legislation. This bill was passed out of subcommittee in the house. Subcommittee members did voice a desire to make amendments at the committee level.

[SSB1038](#) | **Police Data Collection Training**

This bill mandates that all new police go through training designed to prevent implicit bias. It also mandates training on how to track information which would be helpful in noticing trends. This bill was passed out of subcommittee.

[SSB1037](#) | **Operating Unlicensed Massage Therapy**

Business

This bill, which clarifies that operating a massage therapy business without a license is a simple misdemeanor, does not include the preemptive language found in the original legislation. The League worked hard to adjust the language, and is now registered for this bill. It passed out of subcommittee and is expected to advance through the Judiciary Committee soon.

[HSB32](#) | Fees for Use of Right-of-Way

HSB32 would codify that a city can charge “direct” and “fully documented” fees for a utility’s use of the public right-of-way (ROW). The significance of this bill is the difference between the definition of a fee and a tax. A fee is a reimbursement for an actual cost incurred and verifiable. The League is registered undecided but is concerned about the impact this could have on municipalities’ ability to recover costs associated with managing ROWs. We are working with our members to clearly determine the financial impacts of this bill and will take that information to legislators. This bill passed out of a subcommittee in the House.

[SSB1059](#) | Alterations to Criminal Surcharges, Scheduled Violations

This multi-part bill is being nicknamed the “Truth in Sentencing” bill. It alters the surcharges associated with various criminal fines. The League is registered undecided on the bill, and it did pass out of subcommittee.

Other Legislation Filed

- [HSB81](#) | Provides a time frame for appealing Department of Natural Resources orders.
- [HF170](#) | Allows optional property tax exemption for land within city boundaries used for food production. i.e. urban farming.
- Many pieces of legislation involved hiring practices and employment issues including [SF117](#), [HF109](#), [HF163](#), [HF147](#), [HF155](#)
- [SSB1078](#) | Removes December of even years for holding a public referendum or special election.
- [SSB1074](#) | Provides for the payment of medical services for prisoners.
- [HSB3](#) | Preemption of municipal utility board removal – the League is registered against
- [SSB1024](#) | Stand-up scooters for rent

- [HF171](#) | Increases the number of days a person must stay in a hotel/motel before they are exempt from the hotel/motel tax, likely increasing revenues to cities.

Legislative Forums

February 1

[Sen. Amy Sinclair | Corydon](#)

[Sen. Amy Sinclair | Chariton](#)

[Sen. Amy Sinclair | Osceola](#)

[Sen. Amy Sinclair | Leon](#)

[Sen. Randy Feenstra | Cherokee](#)

February 2

[Rep. Wes Breckenridge | Prairie City](#)

[Sen. Jake Chapman | Guthrie Center](#)

[Rep. Megan Jones | Emmetsburg](#)

[Rep. Gary Carlson | Muscatine](#)

[Rep. Tim Kapucian and Rep. Dave Maxwell | Grinnell](#)

[Sen. Jake Chapman | Greenfield](#)

[Rep. Sandy Salmon | Waverly](#)

[Rep. Wes Breckenridge | Newton](#)

February 4

[Rep. Ako Abdul-Samad | Des Moines](#)

[Rep. Marti Anderson | Des Moines](#)

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. Check out the agenda:

10 – 10:10 a.m. | Welcome and Introductions

Alan Kemp, League Executive Director

10:10 – 10:40 a.m. | Department of Cultural Affairs

Chris Kramer, Director

10:45 – 11:20 a.m. | City Panel Discussion: Creative Solutions to Common Problems

With representatives from Dubuque, Lohrville and West Des Moines

11:25 – 11:50 a.m. | What tools do we currently have to get there?

Debi Durham, Director of Iowa Economic Development Authority and Iowa Finance Authority

Noon | Lunch Speaker: Leadership and management

Kerry Gumm, Head of HR Strategy & Planning at Principal Financial Group

1 p.m. | Join the legislative team at the Iowa State Capital

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.

Registration is required. The \$35 fee includes a plated lunch.

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.



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You are receiving this email because you requested legislative updates from the Iowa League of Cities.

The League sends Legislative Link on Fridays during session, and it contains a snapshot of where pertinent bills are throughout the legislative process. Legislative Link is designed to educate and inform members of the current legislative process and climate as a first step to engaging and helping the League create positive outcomes for cities across Iowa. We hope you will help advance our legislative values, and we welcome your support.

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