

The 2024 legislative session Iowa Legislative Report
Iowa State Police Association
90th General Assembly, 2024 Session
End of Session Report: April 20, 2024
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The 2024 Legislative session came to a close in the early morning hours of April 20th. The Senate was the first Chamber to pass the Sine Die resolution (ending session) at approximately 3:30 AM Saturday morning followed by the House resolution at 4:26 AM officially ending the 90th General Assembly. This session was certainly a year that will be remembered. The Republican controlled legislature took on many battles on policy and budget priorities. Some of the differences were resolved but many were left on the table at adjournment due to the differences of the caucus positions. This caused angst and, in some cases, outright anger between the two chambers, making it nearly impossible to find compromise on many issues that came before them. The budget bills passed but many policy bills died for lack of action in one chamber or the other. The differences were too vast and completing the negotiations to move those bills could have delayed session for days or weeks. The Senate leadership made the call and adjourned leaving the House with very few options so they adjourned as well.

ISPA was able to tally some victories this session (listed below) with several bills finding a path to the Governor's desk. Most notably was the 411 bill. As discussed in the last newsletter, this has been a priority for the last 5 years or so. We had many obstacles over the years ranging from municipality resistance to individual legislators killing the bill. This year the hard work and persistence paid off! We found an open window and jumped on an opportunity to have our bill redrafted with an additional change for the MFPRSI board and run through the House Ways and Means committee. Representative Kaufmann, as in years past, was eager to take the opportunity and moved the bill in expedited fashion to the House floor. The bill again passed with nearly unanimous support. On to the Senate.

This year the Senate was more interested in moving the bill due to a multitude of reasons. It was essentially the same bill with the same Senate members but this year the timing was right. We have always said that if given a shot for floor debate, the bill would pass with strong bipartisan support and it did, passing 46-0. On May 3rd there was a signing ceremony for this bill in the Governor's office, that several ISPA members and ISPA current and former board members were able to attend. This bill will take effect July 1, 2024.

Another bill that came together later in session is HF-2681. This bill gives the IDOT oversight of how Iowa cities and counties implement Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE) systems, like traffic cameras. Local governments and law enforcement would be required to justify the need for the traffic cameras at that specific location based on safety issues. Those local governments could not issue tickets if they are not populated by 20,000 residents or more and are less than 10 mph over the speed limit. The funds would have to be allocated for transportation infrastructure improvements or police and fire operational costs. This bill passed the House 85-12 and the Senate 46-1. It now awaits the Governor's signature.

There were many other successes this session. Here is a run down some of the other priority bills that passed this legislative session:

- Window Tint- SF-2267/HF-2037. Both Chambers introduced bills to remove or alter the restrictions on window tint. As in years past, both chambers had robust discussions in subcommittees but in the end, did not have the support to advance.
- Civil Service- SF-2205. This bill dealt with Civil service requirements for certain public safety officials. Signed by the Governor on April 10th.
- Brady-Giglio- SF-2338/HF-2592. This bill dealt with public safety officers placed on the Brady-Giglio list. Passed both chambers with nearly unanimous support. Now awaiting the Governor's signature.

This session was difficult to say the least. The discontent between the two chambers added another level of difficulty in moving legislation to the Governor's office. We have always believed that hard work and persistence will bring success and now patience will be added to that credo. It has been a pleasure

representing the Iowa State Police Association this session and we look forward to the opportunities that are in front of us.

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