

The 2025 Iowa Legislative Report
Iowa State Police Association
91st General Assembly, 2025 Session
Week Eighteen: May 16, 2025
Fitzgerald, Smith & Associates, Lobbyists

Legislators concluded the 2025 session at 6:31 AM on Thursday morning with the adoption of SCR 4 Sine Die, which sets Wednesday, May 14, as the adjournment date for the 2025 session of the 91st General Assembly. The final three days involved extensive discussions on budget and policy matters, totaling over 50 hours of active session, including nearly 24 hours on the last day. Despite differences, the legislative bodies reached a compromise and completed the legislative work for this year.

The budget bills prompted extensive discussions due to the substantial discrepancies between the two chambers regarding both the total expenditure and the allocation of state funds. Like previous years, the delays in concluding this year's legislative session were mainly attributed to differing budget priorities. Next year's budget allocations are anticipated to bring similarly intense negotiations as the legislature continues its efforts to balance conservative spending philosophies with reductions in income and property taxes.

Governor Kim Reynolds has until June 14, 2025 to sign bills passed this year into law. If she does not sign a bill within this period, it is considered a "pocket veto" and does not become law. She can also use a "line-item veto" on appropriations bills, meaning she can reject specific parts of a bill while approving the rest. This allows her to remove individual spending items without vetoing the entire legislation. ISPA is requesting Governor Reynolds for a line-item veto of division XII of SF 659 which introduces new fees for local 911 service boards. This provision was added at the last minute and could require the board responsible for dispatching first responders to pay additional costs to the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for handling emergency calls.

HSB 104, which was similar to SF 659 Div XII, failed to make it out of subcommittee with public safety advocates opposing it through this meeting.

Among the key achievements of the 2025 legislative session for ISPA are the successful enactment of hands-free legislation and the introduction of stricter penalties for assaults against peace officers, both of which were signed into law by the Governor. Additionally, ISPA is advocating for the Governor's approval of an expansion of cancer benefits under the 411 system, which is yet to be signed.

Legislation introduced in 2025 will continue to be considered during the 2026 session of the 91st General Assembly. This means that bills and proposals that were not finalized or passed in the 2025 session can still be discussed, amended, and potentially enacted in next year's session. We will continue to advocate and work on issues that will help law enforcement with recruitment and retention over the interim leading into the 2026 session.

HSB-329-For A bill for an act providing for a waiver of tuition and mandatory fees at regents' institutions and community colleges for peace officers and their legal dependents and making appropriations.

- Passed subcommittee

HF-549-Undecided Officer involved shooting

- Passed House 96-0
- Passed Senate 48-0
- Messaged to the Governor for her signature

SF-311/HF-641-Undecided Civil Service Employees

- Passed Senate 37-9
- Passed House 81-12
- Messaged to the Governor for her signature

SF-137-Undecided Officer training short course

- **Passed Senate 47-0**
- Passed House committee 23-0

HF-1023-For A bill for an act relating to benefits for members of the Iowa public employees' retirement system who are employed in a protection occupation.

- **Passed House 89-0**
- Passed Senate Subcommittee

HF-969-For A bill for an act concerning retirement and employment benefits associated with cancer and making appropriations.

- **Passed House 96-0**
- **Passed Senate 46-1**
- Messaged to the Governor for her signature

HF-904-For A bill for an act relating to motor vehicle accident reports, including the amount of property damage necessary for a report and the period in which a law enforcement officer must forward a report to the department of transportation.

- **Passed House 94-3**
- Passed Senate Committee

SF-472-Undecided A bill for an act relating to retention and recertification elections for public employee collective bargaining units and including effective date and applicability provisions.

- **Passed Senate 32-15**
- Passed House Committee 14-6

SF-22/HF-827-For Hands Free

- Passed House 84-11
- Passed Senate 47-1
- Signed by the Governor

SF-397/HF-177-For Assaults on correction officers

- Passed House 91-2
- Passed Senate 47-0
- Signed by the Governor

If you have any questions regarding bill status, procedural processes or simply curious as to the general tone from week to week, please reach out to us anytime.

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