The 2025 legislative session Iowa Legislative Report Iowa State Police Association 91st General Assembly, 2025 Session

Week One: January 13, 2025
Fitzgerald, Smith & Associates, Lobbyists

The 2025 Iowa legislative session kicked off Monday, January 13th kicking off the 91st General Assembly. As is the case every year, the first week of session is filled with speeches outlining the years objectives from the Governor and leadership from the House and Senate chambers.

Here are some key highlights:

- 1. <u>Property Tax Relief:</u> Republican and Democratic leaders in both chambers have expressed a desire to address property tax relief. While an agreed upon plan was not introduced this week, both chambers have similar goals. Working out the details will be the challenge in sending a bill to the Governor's desk this session.
- 2. <u>Higher Education:</u> House Republicans have created a new committee focused on higher education to ensure colleges and universities are preparing students for high-demand jobs. This committee will also address the efficiencies of the state's higher education system as well as curbing DEI programing. The Iowa Senate did not create a similar committee in their chamber.
- 3. <u>Medicaid Work Requirements:</u> Senate Republicans are pushing for low-income Iowans who receive health insurance through Medicaid to work or receive job training. This proposal needs federal approval.
- 4. <u>Governor's Agenda:</u> Governor Kim Reynolds has proposed several initiatives, including restricting cell phone use in classrooms, improving childcare access, and healthcare reforms. Workforce training needs will continue to be a focus. She also released her budget for the legislative session that outlines her spending priorities.

The House and Senate committees met this week primarily to organize the committee and do introductions. While a few bills have been introduced, the bulk of the bills will be assigned in the coming weeks, kicking off the subcommittee process. The first funnel deadline is set for March 7th.

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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