



LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

Iowa's County Conservation System

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ABBREVIATIONS: H=House, S=Senate, HF=House File, SF=Senate File, HSB=House Study Bill, SSB=Senate Study Bill, CR=Concurrent Resolution, JR=Joint Resolution, NRC=Natural Resource (& Env in the S) Comm, HEPC=House Environmental Protection, CC= Commerce, LGC=Local Gov't, EdC=Education, SGC=State Gov't, TC=Transportation, WMC=Ways & Means, AC=Appropriations, JC=Judiciary, AgC=Ag, AgNRAS=Ag & Natural Resources Appropriation Subcomm (a joint Senate & House subcomm), HPSC=House Public Safety, EG=Economic Growth/Rebuild Iowa, VA=Veterans Affairs.

Phone numbers to reach your Senator is **515/281-3371** & for your Representative is **515/281-3221**. To access bills, E-Mail address for legislators, & other info, go to **<http://www.legis.iowa.gov/index.aspx>**

WEEK THREE

Presentations this week at the Capitol included the following: 1) DNR Dir. Gipp and DALs Sec Northey presentation on the proposed Nutrient Management Strategy, 2) DNR Wildlife Bureau Chief Dale Garner on chronic wasting disease, and 3) the economic value on natural resource based outdoor recreation in Iowa. In a separate presentation, the polling consultants (Public Opinion Strategies and FM3 Research) provided the results of a mid-January poll showing Iowans support a 3/8¢ increase in the Iowa Sales Tax to fund the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund by a 63% margin.

NATURAL RESOURCES & OUTDOOR REC ...

HF 72, SLEDDING LIABILITY. Adds sledding to the list of recreational activities that local governments have an exemption from liability for negligent design or construction, or acts or omissions by a local government employee when the injured person should have known the risk. SJC.

HF 82, LIFETIME FUR HARVESTER LICENSE. Establishes a lifetime fur harvester license for persons over 65 (cost \$50.50). HNR subcom-Hanson, Highfill, Rayhons.

HF 90, DEER TRACKING DOGS. Allows a hunter to use a dog to track and retrieve wounded deer. Requires one to have landowner permission to use the dog on private land and to keep the dog leashed and under control. Requires the NRC to adopt rules. Makes violations subject to a \$25 scheduled fine. HNRC.

HF 92, NATURAL RESOURCES SALES TAX. Increases the state sales tax by 3/8 of a cent for the Natural Resources Trust fund established in the Iowa Constitution. HWMC.

HSB 97, BEGINNING FARMING LEASES. Requires the DNR to lease farmland to beginning farmers in three-year leases. Provides that the DNR does not have to lease land it owns or controls that it would not otherwise lease for farming. HAG subcom-Kaufmann, Grassley, Moore, Muhlbauer, Ruff.

SF 10, HF 68, WATERCRAFT FEES. Extends the requirement that increases from raising watercraft registration fees be used for aquatic invasive plant control, navigation laws and water safety to 2023. Passed SNR subcom. Goes to the full SNRC for review. HNR subcom-J. Smith, Byrnes, Hanson.

SF 59, FARM & HUNTING PRESERVE DEER. Requires that farm deer sent to slaughter or that die be tested for chronic wasting disease (CWD). Requires owners to pay testing costs. Requires owners of farm deer to register with DALs annually, and to meet the fencing certification and bond requirements. Requires a \$5,000 registration fee. Establishes new fencing requirements. Requires that DALs be notified if a farm deer goes missing. Establishes civil penalties for false reporting about farm deer. Establishes new fencing requirements for whitetail hunting preserves. Establishes similar testing and registration requirements. Requires ear tags and tattoos and establishes penalties for removing any required identification from a whitetail on a hunting preserve. Establishes penalties if an animal escapes from the enclosure & is not returned to the enclosure. SNR subcom-Dearden, Seng, Zumbach.

SF 74, DISABLED VETERAN LIFETIME HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES. Makes a disabled veteran who paid Iowa income tax in the previous year and who lived in Iowa at the time of application, a resident for the purposes of qualifying for a lifetime hunting & fishing license. SNR subcom-Dearden, Black, Greiner.

SF 116, WATER SKIING FLAGS. Requires that a person, other than the boat operator, raise a red flag whenever a person waterskiing or being towed falls. SNRC

SSB 1003, HSB66, DNR MATTERS. Strikes the requirement that an ATV or snowmobile title application be notarized. Strikes the Restore the Outdoors program. Adds palustrine emergent wetland as a protected wetlands. Strikes some provisions on the power of the DNR to designate protected wetlands and on procedures for the affected landowners to challenge such a designation. SNR subcom-Brase, Breitbach, Dearden. HNR subcom-Rayhons, H. Miller, J. Smith.

SSB 1006, HSB 65, HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES. Allows a nonresident member of the armed forces on active duty living in Iowa to purchase resident hunting, fishing and trapping license. Does not require an active duty armed

forces personnel or who served and received an honorable discharge to complete a hunter safety course. Allows a person over the age of 18 to complete an on-line hunter safety course without demonstrating the safe handling of a gun. Allows certain minor pupils at state institutions; persons at county care centers and certain persons receiving supplementary aid to fish without a license. SNR subcom-Dearden, Black, Johnson. HNR subcom-Baudler, Hall, Highfill

SSB 1084, ATVS & OFF-ROAD VEHICLES. Adds width and engine limits of and strikes certain seat requirements for ATVs & off-road vehicles. SNR subcom-Dearden, Johnson, Ragan. Will not cover further.

ENVIRONMENT & AG ...

HF 48, SOLAR & GEOTHERMAL VALUATIONS. Strikes the 10-year limit for the property tax exemption for the value of geothermal heating and cooling systems and the 5-year limit for the solar systems. States that the obligation for the state to reimburse local governments for the cost of property tax credits and exemptions do not apply to these provisions. HWMC. Will not cover further.

HF 65, IMPLEMENTING FEDERAL LAW. Prohibits a state agency from exceeding the specific requirements of a federal statute, rule or policy and deems any part of the rule that does so to be void. HEGC.

HF 66, PROHIBITING SUPPORT OF UNITED NATIONS AGENDA 21. Prohibits the state or any of its political subdivisions from implementing or financially supporting the implementation of Agenda 21 if the implementation would infringe or restrict private property rights without due process. "Agenda 21" is an international environmental action plan for sustainable development. HSGC.

HSB 87, MANURE HANDLING COURSES. Requires DNR to develop an educational course containing practical, cost-effective methods to limit manure spills and their impact. Requires DNR to make continuing education course available on the Internet. HAg sub

SF 7, ORIENTAL BITTERSWEET. Adds oriental bittersweet to the list of prohibited invasive plants (noxious weed list). SNRC.

SF 24, NPDES SIGNS. Requires an NPDES permit holder for non-storm water discharges to maintain a sign at points of discharge to surface waters. Includes specifications for the sign. Establishes penalties and allows waivers. Does not require the sign for feedlot operators or CAFOs. SAG subcom-Seng, Hart, Zumbach.

SSB 1005, HSB 72, WATER QUALITY. Strikes the requirement for the publication of notice in newspapers for NPDES stormwater and allowable nonstormwater permits. Allows aquatic herbicides to be applied according to EPC rules. Allows an applicant for a permit to divert, withdraw or store water to apply for additional time to provide information without incurring another fee. Awards such a permit by default if the DNR does not award or deny an application within 90 days of receipt. Strikes the requirement that a borrower under the on-site waste system program live outside a city. Strikes certain DNR reporting requirements related to the program. SNR subcom-Schoenjahn, Greiner, Seng.

LOCAL GOVT & OTHER ...

HF 60, LOCAL OPTION SALES TAXES. Allows city or county elected officials to file petitions for a local option sales tax vote. Limits the length of a local option sales tax to ten years. Requires a three-year wait before the question can be submitted to voters after failing. Changes the allocation of revenues for taxes imposed after July 2013 so that all taxes collected in a city stay with the city and all taxes collected in unincorporated parts of a county stay with the county. HSG subcom-Watts, Isenhart, Pettengill.

HF 74, GUN & AMMO RESTRICTIONS. Prohibits the Governor or local governments to restrict the sale or transport of guns and ammo after a disaster is declared. HJC. Unlikely to be taken up in the Senate. Will delete until further action.

HF 75, SF 105, GUN & AMMO SEIZURES. A law enforcement agency that seizes a gun or ammo is deemed the owner of those items if the value is under \$500. Requires forfeited guns and ammunition with a value over \$500 be transferred to

the seizing agency. Allows the agency to use the guns and ammo or sell and to keep the proceeds. HJC.

HSB 15, SSB 1034, PARKING FEES & CHARGES. Among other items, makes the docketing fee for parking violations \$35. Requires agencies that have their own debt collection process to pay 10% of the collections to the State Court Administrator. Amended & passed HJC. Will not cover further.

HSB 40, SSB 1033, DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY. Establishes the current Div of Homeland Security & Emergency Mgt, now in the Dept of Public Defense, as a separate department. HSG subcom-Hagenow, Highfill, T. Taylor. Will not cover further.

SF 15, PUBLIC COMPETITIVE BIDDING. Requires the state & local governments to allow Iowa businesses the chance to match a low bid from an out-of-state business if the Iowa company bid is within 5% or \$10,000, whichever is lower, and the project is less than \$500,000. Excludes certain projects and services. Requires that Iowa companies disclose their Iowa relationship. SEGC.

SF 53 (formerly SSB 1057), SCHOOL PROPERTY TAXES. Transfers money necessary to lower all school district adjusted additional property tax levy rates to the statewide maximum adjusted additional property tax levy rate from the Taxpayers Trust fund. Establishes a School Property Tax Replacement Fund and formulas to determine the transfer of funds to schools. Eligible for S debate.

SF 57, RESERVE POLICE OFFICERS. Authorizes an approved reserve police officer certified by ILEA, to receive a non-professional gun carry permit. SJ subcom-Sodders, Dvorsky, Zaun. Will not cover further.

SF 89, LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMM. Strikes a requirement that budgets for local emergency management commissions only be done by elected members or by designated alternate members who are elected officials. SLGC. Will not cover further.

SF 92, RESERVE PEACE OFFICER CREDIT. Allows a reserve peace officer to claim a \$50 non-refundable tax credit, prorated if the officer serves for part of the year. Does not allow someone to claim both the reserve peace officer credit and a credit for being a volunteer fire fighter or EMS worker. Will not cover further.

SSB 1037, CRIMINAL CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS. Strikes the authority of judges to order charitable contributions in lieu of community service. Prohibits allowing charitable contributions as a sentencing option. SJ subcom-Courtney, Petersen, Sorenson.