**WEEK FOUR: FEB 1-5TH**

To: Iowa Firefighters Association

From: John & Cyndi Pederson

**News from the Hill**

The Governor announced Michael Bousselot as the new Director for the Department of Management. Longtime Director Dave Roederer at the end of January.

Bousselot has an undergraduate and graduate degree from University of Iowa in accounting and a law degree from Drake University. He was the former chief of staff and policy advisor in the Branstad/Reynolds administration.

A big THANK-YOU to those who traveled to the Capitol on Jan 21st or sent emails to their legislators for **FIREFIGHTER DAY ON THE HILL.**

The chili cook-off happened as planned in the Capitol rotunda and we had a huge response.

Many legislators, lobbyists and staff enjoyed chili from 5 contestants. The winner was the Radcliff Fire Department! The chili was made by firefighter, Steve Hardee with Tori Akers serving and Chuck Raska and Jacob Handsaker assisting. They were the proud recipients of the Chili Trophy.

Thanks to all who participated and we look forward to more competition next year.

Along with the invite to the chili cook-off each legislator received a SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FIREFIGHTER pin. We took pictures of those legislators who wore them. Here are just a few pictures from the day. We attached just a few pictures.

Members of the board had an informative meeting with the Governor too! It was a very productive day.

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**Board with Sen Koelker, Sen Driscoll and Sen Cournoyer**

**President Riley with Rep Wills**

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**Kent Brix and Aaron Clemons with new member Rep Graber**

**Tim Pins visiting with Majority Leader Grassley**

**Bills of Interest to IFA**

**SF 71 Use of Lights- Transportation Committee**

(Shipley, Bisignano, and Rozenboom)

Passed subcommittee. Should be on full transportation committee this week

This bill authorizes the use of various lights on emergency vehicles.

**SF 72 Emergency Responder**

(Koelker, Driscoll and Taylor)

Passed subcommittee-Should be in full transportation this week

This bill clarifies the operations, immunity and liability in emergency situations, use of emergency vehicles in parades, funeral processions, and events. It also defines authorized emergency vehicles.

**HF 144 Raises tax credit from $100 to $200**

Subcommittee of Kaufmann, Brown-Powers and Graber

This is a Ways and Means bill which will meet after the first funnel.(March 5th)

**Length of Service bill**

Rep Bloomingdale is sponsoring this bill. It should get a bill # this week. There were some drafting issues that needed clarification and should be out this week.

This legislation creates a length of service award to volunteer firefighters who meet criteria to receive an award given by the city/county and will be matched by the state.

**SF 55 Carbon Monoxide Protection**

passed Subcommittee (Guth, Celsi, and Goodwin) State Gov Committee

This bill requires the fire marshal to adopt rules for standards relating to carbon monoxide protection that are consistent with the international building code and international fire code.

**SF 46 ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE:** (Rozenboom (C), Giddens, Kraayenbrink) Transportation

Passed subcommittee

The bill exempts the use of an electronic communication device in a voice-activated or hands-free mode, for members of a public safety agency performing official duties, for health care professionals in the course of emergency situations, for the purpose of receiving safety-related information, for the purpose of reporting an emergency situation, for certain radio operators, and for members of a public transit system performing official duties while in a vehicle that is not in motion.

**HF 248 EMERGENCY RESPONSE DISTRICTS/FIRE DEPARTMENTS:** (Klein (C), Breckenridge, Thorup) Public Safety

This bill allows communities, townships, regions to create Emergency Response Districts. This is completely voluntary.

Cities do not like Sec 6 which states:

The bill requires a city in which an institution of higher education governed by the state board of regents is located to establish, house, equip, staff, uniform, and maintain a full-time, professional fire department that is separate from the city’s police department. This was not part of our language but added by a few legislators. They are referring to the city of Cedar Falls who are cross training police and firefighters.

Passed subcommittee. 3-0

**SSB 1094 PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT: Cournoyer (C), Johnson, T Taylor**

**Referred to Appropriations**

This bill creates a public safety equipment fund and appropriates the moneys in the fund to the department of public safety (DPS) for the purchase, maintenance, and replacement of equipment used by DPS.

**SF 192 COVID EXPENSES** (Nunn) (Human Resources)

Subcommittee of : Edler, Carlin and Trone-Garriott They have not met yet.

Allows the Public Safety Commissioner to pay up to $1,000 in qualified expenses related to COVID for volunteer EMS workers. Establishes a presumption that certain expenses are

covered. Makes reimbursements on a first-come, first serve basis, to the extent that funds are available. Establishes a fund and contains related provisions.

**SF 249 911 COSTS** (Edler) (State Government) Strikes various current allocation methods related to 911 call costs. Requires a local exchange carrier to pay the cost for recurring monthly service. Requires the program manager to determine the points of ingress and egress and originating service providers to pay the associated costs.

**SSB 1139 ELECTRONIC DEVICES/DRIVING** (Transportation) Rozenboom (C), Giddens, Kraayenbrink Prohibits the use of an electronic communication device while

driving unless the device is hands-free. Excludes GPS integrated into the vehicle. Excludes public safety professionals in the course of their job and health care professionals in emergencies.

**SSB 1140 GOVERNOR’S POLICE/RIOTING PROPOSALS** (Judiciary) Dawson (C), Kinney, Zaun Funding: Makes a local government ineligible for state funding, or federal grants through the state, if it reduces the budget for law enforcement, unless this is part of a budget-wide cut or the local government can show sufficient justification for the reduction. Includes specific justifications. CBA: Deems a Regent police officer to be a public safety officer for collective bargaining. Allows public safety employees to form a new union if the officers make less than 30% of the union. Injuries: Allows an officer who is injured on the line of duty to file a civil action against the person who caused the injury, or against a person who filed a false report. Allows damages, court costs and reasonable attorney fees. Profiling: Creates a Code chapter on racial/ethnic profiling by law enforcement. Prohibits disparate treatment by police, including ethnic and racial profiling. Defines disparate treatment and protects various personal characteristics (race, creed color, origin, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability). Requires data collection for traffic stops and specifies data to be collected. Requires the CJJP to develop a uniform manner of reporting by law enforcement and requires the CJJP to analyze and publish the data. Makes definitions. Requires law enforcement to investigate all violations of disparate treatment. Community Board: Changes the name of the Justice Advisory Board to the Justice & Community Policing Advisory Board and increases the membership and duties. Requires the board to make recommendations about disparate treatment. Facility Access: Makes it a scheduled fine of $135 for a person to ride a bike or skateboard, or similar conveyance, in a fully controlled-access facility. Redaction Fee: Raises the fee for recording transactions in a county by $1 and

scoops the money for redactions of information about police, judges and prosecutors in documents. Peer Counseling: Includes the communications between civilian employees of a law enforcement agency or fire department and a peer counselor in the confidentiality protections for communications with those counselors. Lasers: Defines pointing a laser at someone with the intent to cause or injure the person an assault. Makes exceptions for law enforcement, medical personnel and laser tag. Crimes: Makes bias-motivated harassment of a law enforcement officer, prison or jail employer, fire fighters, and similar employees a Class D or

Class C felony, depending on damages and injuries. Creates 2nd degree criminal mischief and makes it a Class D felony. Makes rioting a Class D felony. Makes unlawful assembly an aggravated misdemeanor. Establishes disorderly conduct offenses ranging from a serious misdemeanor to a Class C felony for blocking roads, streets or sidewalks, depending on circumstances, damages and injuries. Requires a person arrested for criminal mischief to be held for at least 24 hours. Requires the court to make written findings that the defendant is not likely to resume the criminal behavior causing the arrest if released. (Governor)

Remember you can contact your legislator by emailing them at:

First name.last [name@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:name@legis.iowa.gov)

As always, feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

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