

## Legislative Update: Week 1

*January 14, 2022*

The 2022 legislative session started on Monday, January 10. Following tradition, the first week of session is marked by opening speeches by leadership from both Chambers and the Governor's Condition of the State address. Committees already convened this week, and several bills are already filed. The opening speeches by Republican leaders focused on their priorities for the session: tax reform, workforce, and vaccine mandates. The Democratic leadership prioritized workforce, healthcare, childcare and housing.

The Governor outlined her priorities in Tuesday evening's address. Highlights from her 2022 priorities include:

- Tax reform - establish a 4% tax rate and eliminate income tax on retirement income
- Educational choice for parents, work-based learning for Iowa's students
- Bolsters Iowa's health care workforce – increase funding to the Rural Iowa Primary Care Loan Repayment Program and healthcare pathways for Iowa's youth, among others.
- Improve access to childcare - invest more than \$480 million of state and federal funds to address the Addressing the state's workforce issues through unemployment reform.

Affordable housing was noticeably absent from her comments, save a nod to standardizing building codes and Mainstreet Iowa revitalization. Governor Reynolds' full address can be found [here](#).

As is typical in the second year of the biennium, legislators started filing bills already this week, with a handful of subcommittees already being held on Wednesday and Thursday. As a reminder, bills from last year are still alive as well.

Please see the bill tracker for legislation we are following at this point. Future weekly updates will include a list of bills with current status.

**Homeownership Omnibus legislation:** Rep. Kauffman has submitted the bill for drafting as a House Study Bill. Senator Roby Smith is not responding to follow up; the team will work with the State Government Vice Chair, Sen. Chris Cournoyer, and ask her to submit the bill on the Senate side as a companion.

### **Key Dates:**

**January 21:** Final day for individual Senator and Representative bill requests

**February 18:** First Funnel Deadline

**March 18:** Second Funnel Deadline

**April 19:** 100<sup>th</sup> Calendar Day of Session (*per diem* expenses end per Iowa Code)