

January 20, 2023 – Week 2

With the Martin Luther King, Jr holiday on Monday and a mid-week snowstorm, it was a short and quick week at the Capitol! Legislators focused primarily on advancing Governor Reynolds' private school bill through House and Senate committees after advocates on both sides packed the Capitol for subcommittees earlier in the week. Education reform wasn't the only work being done, however. The pace picked up considerably as legislators considered bills in subcommittees, including some housing-related legislation. Committees started meeting and voting on bills as well. Governor Reynolds also announced several staffing changes for her administration; find the new staff list [here](#).

Help Advocate for Homeownership! The Annual Habitat Day at the Capitol and legislative breakfast will be held on **February 2 from 7:00 am – 10:00 a.m.** We'd love to have you join us and help us build louder! Contact [Rachel Ong](#) for more information.

Key Legislation:

HSB22: The legislation increases the property tax exemption for veterans. It increases the exemption to the assessed property value from \$1,852 to \$4,000. The exemption has not been increased since 1974 and the Legislative Services Agency estimates that veterans will receive average relief of \$100-\$150 annually. The bill was approved by the subcommittee and moves forward to the Veterans Affairs committee for consideration. **Support.**

SF43: The bill prohibits cities or counties from adopting rules, ordinances, code or other regulations that are more restrictive building standards than national code. The subcommittee approved the bill and it moves on to the Local Government committee. **Undecided.**

SF15: This legislation appropriates an additional \$500,000 to the military homeownership down payment assistance program. The Veterans Affairs committee passed it this week and it has been assigned to the Appropriations committee for consideration. **Support.**

HF1: The House released its first draft of its property tax reform legislation. Division 1 impacts the school aid formula, shifting 50 cents of the \$5.40 school aid foundation levy to state aid. Division 2 limits future assessments of "actual value" on individual parcels to 103% of the previous assessment year (3% cap on increase). Division 3 relates to bonding requirements and public noticing. **Undecided.**

advocacy updates



[HSB4/SSB1007](#): This legislation exempts transfers to beneficiaries of a trust from paying the real estate transfer tax. The bill essentially codifies what is current practice and is not expected to impact funding to the housing trust funds. Both the House and Senate bills moved forward from subcommittee this week. **Undecided.**

[SF10](#): The bill is a “re-brand” of the land banks bill that has been introduced in recent years by Senator Mark Lofgren. While the new name, land redevelopment trusts bill, has caused some confusion among housing advocates, the legislation is the same as previous years and establishes a land bank, not a trust. With additional sponsors, including Senator Dawson, the chair of the Senate Ways and Means committee, it appears to have more momentum than in past years. The subcommittee approved the bill and moved it forward for consideration by the Ways and Means committee. **Support.**

[HF37](#): This bill expands the disabled veteran homestead tax credit. The subcommittee moved it forward for consideration by the full committee. **Support.**

Key Dates:

February 2, 2023: Habitat Day at the Capitol

March 3: First Funnel Deadline

March 31: Second Funnel Deadline

April 28: 110th Calendar Day of Session (*per diem* expenses end per Iowa Code)

For more information, please contact:

[Rachel Ong](#)

Government Relations & Advocacy Manager
515.829.2775