

January 27, 2023 – Week 3

The bulk of legislators' time and energy this week was focused on the passage of the Governor's top priority school choice bill. It was passed by both chambers on Monday and Governor Reynolds signed it immediately. With this priority passed, attention is turning to other issues, such as food assistance and tort reform for medical malpractice. Subcommittee and committee meetings continued at a brisk pace.

### **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:*

[HF141](#) (formerly [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 Veterans Affairs committee passed the bill out of committee and it moves forward for potential consideration by the House. **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 bill is on the agenda for the Local Government committee meeting on January 30. **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 and a subcommittee has been assigned. Further action will be later in the session, as it is now funnel proof in the Appropriations committee. **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



**[HF111/SF150](#)** (formerly **[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 bills were approved by their respective committees and move forward for potential consideration by full Chamber. **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:** 110<sup>th</sup> Calendar Day of Session (*per diem* expenses end per Iowa Code)

## **For more information, please contact:**

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