

March 15, 2024 – Week 10

This week marks the second major deadline in the legislative session, the second funnel. To remain viable for the remainder of the legislative session, bills must have passed out of one chamber and out of committee in the opposing chamber. There are several exceptions to the “funnel,” including spending and tax bills, if leaders place a bill on the “unfinished business calendar,” or attach a measure to another eligible bill. Over 100 bills were put on the “unfinished business” calendar this week. However, it’s important to note that bills are never truly ‘dead’ until adjournment *sine die*, and sometimes bills come back to life as an amendment to another bill.

With approximately a month left in the legislative session, next week, legislators’ focus will shift from policy bills to working on the budget in the Appropriations and Ways and Means committees as they work toward adjournment. The House has debated and passed roughly 150 bills and the Senate has had a narrower focus with debating approximately 40 bills.

Today is also the deadline for candidates to [file with the Secretary of State](#) for the June primary. Stay tuned for updates on who’s running in the metro. Next week we should know who is running, being challenged in a primary, or retiring.

Please reach out to [Rachel](#) with any questions! See below for an update on the legislation Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity is following.

Key Legislation:

[HF2634](#): This legislation removes the cap on the real estate transfer tax and would increase monies to the State Housing Trust Fund. The Legislative Services Agency’s [fiscal note](#) estimates approximately \$3 million increase in funds. We are working with House leaders to have it placed on the House Debate calendar. (Formerly HSB557) **Support.**

[HF2420](#): This legislation increases the Workforce Housing Tax Credit funding from \$35 million to \$50 million. The measure passed Economic Growth committee and has been referred to the Ways and Means committee for further consideration. The House Ways and Means subcommittee moved it forward on Tuesday, 3-0. An amendment to increase the per unit cost cap is expected to be proposed. **Support.**

[HF2167/SF2193](#): The bill extends the period for families to access case management following disaster and increases the grant limit from \$5,000 to \$7,000 per household, essentially an adjustment for inflation. The House voted on the bill and passed it unanimously last week, 97-0. The Senate Appropriations committee approved the bill on Tuesday, and it is eligible for consideration by the Senate Chamber. (Formerly [SSB3061/ HSB549](#)). **Support.**

advocacy updates



[HF2388/SF2231](#) (formerly [SSB3040](#)): This legislation prohibits cities from regulating certain building materials for the exteriors of residential buildings. The House passed the bill, and it is in Senate for consideration. **Support.**

[HF665/SF182](#): This bill allows municipalities to establish land redevelopment trusts (i.e. land banks) and allows those entities to acquire property through tax sale and related methods. The Senate held a subcommittee on Tuesday and moved the bill forward for consideration by the Ways and Means committee. **Support.**

[SF455](#): This bill prohibits a county or city from adopting ordinances on storm water regulation that exceeds or conflicts with federal or state statutes. It also prohibits a city from adopting ordinances relating to the preservation, compaction, placement, or depth of topsoil at a construction site. The bill has now passed both the Senate (2023) and the House earlier this week with amendment, on a vote of 53-46. The measure returns to the Senate to concur with the amendment. **Undecided.**

Key Dates:

April 16:

100th Day of Session (*per diem* expenses end per Iowa Code)