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April 23, 2024 – Sine Die

The second session of the 90<sup>th</sup> General Assembly adjourned, just four days after the scheduled last day of session. Legislators worked overnight to adjourn *sine die* (meaning there is no set date to resume) early Saturday morning at 4:23 am. In a flurry of last-minute activity, legislators finalized legislative priorities and passed budget bills, the last act before adjourning until next year.

There were many high-level priorities this session, such as restructuring Area Education Agencies, state boards and commissions reorganization, income tax cuts, foreign land ownership and various social issue bills. Governor Reynolds has 30 days after the legislature adjourns *sine die* to approve or veto legislation sent to her in the last three days before adjournment or sent to her after the legislature adjourns. The effective date for *most* legislation will be July 1, 2024, unless specified in the bill.

Although there were several priorities commanding legislators' attention, Habitat made progress on our priorities as well! We're excited to report that the Housing Renewal Pilot Program received an increase of \$550,000 to create more homeownership opportunities for Iowa's workforce and help stabilize neighborhoods. Disaster aid legislation passed in the final days of session. This extends families' access to case management and increases financial support from \$5,000 to \$7,000 per household. Last, legislators passed a measure preventing cities and counties from regulations on residential exteriors that unnecessarily increase the price of new homes.

We'll send out a final after-session report after we've had a chance to confirm final actions. During the interim, we'll update occasionally on our local, state, and federal advocacy efforts *and* how you can be involved in advocacy over the next year. It will be a busy interim with study committees, the latest buzz on statehouse races in November, and of course, predictions for next session's priorities! Feel free to reach out with any questions or comments!

Please reach out to Rachel Ong with questions or clarifications on end-of-session actions or other advocacy-related topics!