



Be informed!

DECEMBER 5, 2025

**CAPITOL
CHAT**

Welcome (Brooke Lovelace)

Meet the New HHS Committee Chairs

- Rep. Austin Harris (Chair, House HHS Committee)
- Sen. Kara Warme (Chair, Senate HHS Committee)

Policy Focus: Let Us Work!

- Rep. Josh Turek (Update on Work Without Worry)
- Join the Blitz!

State Legislative Forecast

- Looking ahead at 2026
- Budgets, Property Tax, DOGE

Happy Holidays!

- See you in 2026
- Capitol Chat Schedule



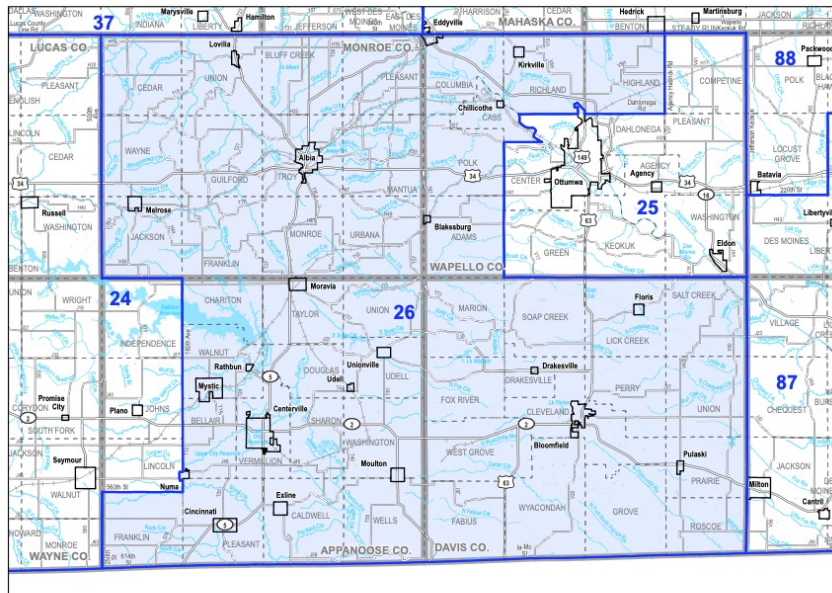
IOWA DD Council
Preparation, Participation, Power

Meet the New HHS Chairs



Rep. Austin Harris

- Chair, House Health & Human Services Committee
- Also serves on Commerce, Natural Resources, State Government
- Represents Appanoose, Davis, Monroe & Wapello Counties
- Austin.Harris@legis.iowa.gov



Effective Beginning with the Elections in 2022 for the 90th General Assembly

HOUSE DISTRICT 26

City
TOWNSHIP
COUNTY
House District

0 2.5 5.0 10.0 Miles
Prepared by the Iowa Legislative Services Agency using 2020 Census data.

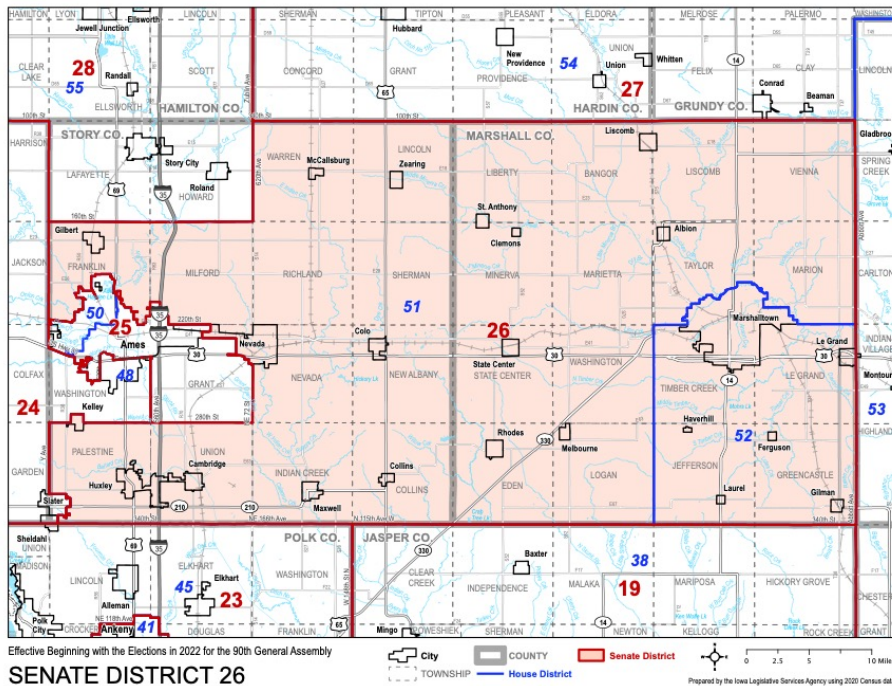


Meet the New HHS Chairs



Sen. Kara Warme

- Chair, Senate Health & Human Services Committee
- Also serves on Appropriations, Commerce, Technology, Transportation, Veterans Affairs – and the Health & Human Services Budget Subcommittee
- Represents Story & Marshall Counties
- Kara.Warme@legis.iowa.gov





Policy Focus: Work Without Worry

Rep. Josh Turek

- Serves on House HHS Committee & House HHS Budget Subcommittee
- Sponsor of original Work Without Worry bill (HF 426)
- This bill is now House File 905 (House Appropriations Committee)
- Josh.Turek@legis.iowa.gov





LET US WORK!

A campaign to give people with disabilities
the freedom to work.

Let Us Work is a campaign to educate lawmakers and change policy to give Iowans with disabilities the freedom to work!



You can make a difference in the lives of **ALL** Iowans with disabilities!

Join the **Let Us Work BLITZ!**

For more information & to sign up to BLITZ:

Let Us Work! Campaign
(iowaddcouncil.org)



2026 Legislative Forecast

House & Senate Caucus Next Week

- Finalize committee memberships next week
- Dec. 9 special election (House District 7)
- Dec. 30 special election (Senate District 16)

Big Issues Heading into 2026

- Budgets - \$252 million Medicaid shortfall, 9% drop in revenues
- Revenue Estimating Conference revises estimates next week
- Carbon Pipeline
- Sin Taxes (gambling, alcohol, tobacco)
- Property Tax Relief
- DOGE (shared services)



Legislature is back to work on January 12, 2026

- Governor will announce priorities, budget on January 13, 2026
- Legislators must request bills by January 23, 2026
- First Funnel Deadline is February 20, 2026

2026 Capitol Chat Schedule

- Returning to shorter, every other Friday Chats (Noon-12:30 pm)
- January 23 | February 6 | February 20 | March 6 | March 20 | April 3 | April 17

