

March 31, 2023 Legislative Committee Minutes

Attendee Legislative Committee Council Members: Matthew Conaway, Mark Smith, Rob Roozeboom

Absent Council Members: Kristen Aller, Brady Werger, Brittney Drinovsky, Roxanne Cogil, Carol Cross, Hugh Kelly

Council Staff: Brooke Lovelace, Carlyn Crowe, Lindsay Hommer

Public: None

Capitol Chat Overview

Crowe reviewed the power point that was shared during Capitol Chat. Recap of the bills are:

Survivors:

- Training school staff on **seizure identification** and seizure first aid (HF 608)
- Automatic annual increases in **Medicaid reimbursement** (HF 378)
- Getting rid of income tax on **DSP wages** (SF 7, HF 264)
- Including more stakeholder input on **MH/DS Regional Governing Boards** (HF 471)
- **Public assistance** asset testing, identity verification, community engagement (HF 613)
- **Public assistance** asset testing, identity verification (SF 494)
- **Taxing MCOs** to increase federal match to add more funding for Medicaid (HF 685)
- Adding a new definition of **Brain Health** (SF 210, HF 273)
- **Reorganizing state government** without input from key stakeholders (SF 514)
- Allowing teachers to remove **disruptive students** from classroom, three strikes (HF 604)

Failures:

- New college-based **transition scholarships** for young adults with disabilities (HF 252)
- Aligning ID Waiver caps on **home and vehicle modifications** with BI waiver (HF 275)
- Ending insurance limits on **autism treatment** (HF 243)
- Requiring schools excuse absences for students getting **autism treatment** (HF 610)
- Stopping “**switching**” of **prescription drug coverage** when stable (HF 626) (*this was updated after the presentation; it was listed as surviving when it in fact did not.*)
- Allowing health care professionals to **refuse service** or referral on moral grounds (SF 297)
- Requiring all **guardians and conservators** to fill out the same forms (SF 295)
- Requiring **health insurance** coverage to follow the public policy set in the state (SF 295)
- Changing and **eliminating HHS Boards/Commissions**, ending per diems for citizen members (HF 566)

There will be a public hearing for SF 494 Public Assistance asset testing and identity verification on Tuesday, April 4th. If this bill passes, it would cost approximately \$30 million in staffing costs.

State Budget

- Current: \$8.21 billion
- Governor: \$8.49 billion (3% increase)

Creating change with and for persons with developmental disabilities so they can live, work, learn and play in the community of their choosing.

IOWA DD Council

Preparation, Participation, Power

- Senate: \$8.49 billion (3% increase)
- House: \$8.58 billion (4.5% increase)
- Allowed: \$9.65 billion
- Spending 88% (instead of 99%)

Crowe stated that since all of the state budget funds are not being spent, now would be a good time to suggest investing in increases to direct support professionals (DSP's).

Capitol Advocacy Days Updates

March 21st – Mosaic

March 22nd – Life Connections Peer Network

March 22nd – First Resources

March 29th – Systems Unlimited

Crowe stated that all of the groups that attended were great.

Action Items

Contact your State Representative regarding SF494, the public assistance bill. It will move through the House soon. Use the Take Action Center on infoNET and customize the message easily.

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