
Iowa Public Airports Association

Legislative Update

Issue No. 23-10, 3/10/2023



The House of Representatives begins its work Thursday morning. (Legislative website screenshot)

Public Notice Posting Bill Advances

A bill which would switch the publication of public notices from local newspapers to a state run website is advancing in the Iowa Senate.

Senate File 546 would require the Secretary of State to establish an online portal for the posting of public notices, bypassing the current newspaper publication requirement.

The state, cities, counties, school districts and 28E organized entities would be required to use this system.

The bill establishes a cost of \$5.00 per posting.

SF 546 is now eligible for consideration by the full Senate.

Bills of Interest

(HF - House File, HSB - House Study Bill, SF - Senate File, SSB - Senate Study Bill)

(F - For, A - Against, U - Undecided/monitoring)

SF 546 - Public Notices (U) - The bill requires the Secretary of State or the Secretary of State's designee to create an online portal on which a public posting entity (defined in the bill to include the State of Iowa, an Iowa county, an Iowa city, an Iowa public school district, or an Iowa private or public agency in Code chapter 28E), must post all statutorily required public notices, rather than in a local newspaper.

The online portal would be searchable based on county, city, school district, and type of public notice. The bill requires the Secretary of State to collect a fee of \$5 from a public posting entity for each notice posted by the entity and to deposit money collected pursuant to the bill in the business administration fund.

Approved by the Ways and Means Committee. On Senate debate calendar

SF 411 (formerly SSB 1085) - City and County Engine Energy Rules Preemption (U) - This bill prohibits a county or city from adopting an ordinance, motion, resolution, or amendment that limits consumer access to an energy source to power an engine or that results in the de facto prohibition of the sale or production of an energy source or the related infrastructure necessary to provide consumer access to a specific energy source within the jurisdiction of the county or city. The bill specifically includes "aviation fuel" in the list of energy sources enumerated in the bill.

Approved by the Senate 41-6. Referred to House Commerce Committee

SF 520 (formerly SF 369) - UAVs Over Farms (U) - This bill prohibits the use of remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) flying over a homestead or that part of a farmstead where agricultural animals are kept.

On Senate debate calendar

SF 203 (formerly SSB 1072) - Ransomware (F) - The bill defines "ransomware," and provides that a person shall not use ransomware with the intent to cause the malfunction or interruption of the operation of, or alter, damage, or destroy, all or any part of a computer, computer network, computer control language, computer software, computer system, computer service, or computer data.

The bill also provides that a person who has suffered a specific and direct injury because of a violation of the bill may bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction, and the court may award actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, and court costs. A conviction for an offense under the bill is not a prerequisite for the filing of a civil action.

On Senate debate calendar

SF 144 (formerly SSB 1016) - Laser Pointing At Aircraft (F) - This bill relates to an assault involving a laser pointed toward an aircraft. Specifically, the bill provides that it is an assault for a person to intentionally point a laser emitting a visible light beam toward an aircraft. The bill defines "aircraft" as any contrivance intended for and capable of transporting persons through the airspace. Penalties for assault range from a simple misdemeanor to a class "C" felony.

On Senate debate calendar

HF 585 (formerly HF 231) - Regional Representation on the State Transportation Commission (U) - This bill requires that for each of the seven regions of the state, as designated by the bill, one member of the transportation commission must be appointed to represent, and must reside in, each region. The bill divides the state into seven regions with each region consisting of certain adjoining counties.

On House debate calendar

HF 572 (formerly HF 388) - UAVs Over Farms (U) - This bill prohibits the use of remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) flying over a homestead or that part of a farmstead where agricultural animals are kept.

On House debate calendar

HF 143 (formerly HSB 13) - Ransomware (F) - The bill defines “ransomware,” and provides that a person shall not use ransomware with the intent to cause the malfunction or interruption of the operation of, or alter, damage, or destroy, all or any part of a computer, computer network, computer control language, computer software, computer system, computer service, or computer data.

The bill also provides that a person who has suffered a specific and direct injury because of a violation of the bill may bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction, and the court may award actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, and court costs. A conviction for an offense under the bill is not a prerequisite for the filing of a civil action.

Approved by the House 97 to 1