

# Legislative Update

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Issue No. 23-14, 4/07/2023

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The second floor rotunda hosts a sparse crowd during the late afternoon at the Iowa Statehouse. (Photo by The Capitol Group)

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## Airport Car Rental Fees Under Attack

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Enterprise car rental, and its subsidiaries (Alamo and National) are asking lawmakers to severely restrict the use of car rental customer facility charges (CFC) at Iowa's airports.

House Study Bill 241 would require that the charge (CFC) must be used only for financing, designing, constructing, operating, maintaining, acquiring, or otherwise improving the consolidated vehicle rental facilities and common-use transportation systems used to transport customers between consolidated vehicle rental facilities and other airport facilities, including necessary equipment, vehicles, and facilities for such systems.

The bill then prohibits customer facility charge monies from being used for airport terminal

expansion, gate expansion, runway expansion, or for any other purpose not authorized under the bill.

The IPAA is actively opposing this effort by a multinational company to force a "solution in search of a problem" onto Iowa's commercial service airports.

The members of the subcommittee assigned to HSB 241 are:

Rep. Megan Jones - [Megan.Jones@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:Megan.Jones@legis.iowa.gov)

Rep. Brian Best - [Brian.Best@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:Brian.Best@legis.iowa.gov)

Rep. Elizabeth Wilson -  
[Elizabeth.Wilson@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Wilson@legis.iowa.gov)

1 For supporting operations at state parks, including  
2 maintenance and repair of grounds and facilities:  
3 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Example of Senate appropriations bills without “numbers” included. (Graphic by The Capitol Group)

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## Budget Rumblings Begin

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The formulation of a state spending plan for the 2024 fiscal year is beginning at the Statehouse.

The Senate has started to assemble the spending proposals that use state general fund dollars for projects and programs including appropriations bills for education, agriculture and natural resources.

The Infrastructure spending bill, which includes airport appropriations, utilizes funds from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund and has not yet been introduced.

The Infrastructure bill is usually the final spending bill authored and approved by lawmakers each year.

It is interesting to note that the Senate bills have all the required “language,” but blank spaces where the actual amount of the appropriation would be.

An example of this is included above. No word yet on when the House may begin to unveil its spending proposals.

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## Bills of Interest

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(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 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 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. On the House debate calendar.

SF 329 - Definition of a “Day” for Civil Air Patrol, etc. (U) - This bill allows a civil employee of the state to only take one day of required leave if the employee is absent (due to state active duty, national guard duty, federal active duty, civil air patrol duty, or national disaster medical system duty,) for a workday that encompasses a continuous period of up to 24 consecutive hours, regardless of whether the workday extends into one or two calendar days.

Approved by the Senate 49-0. On the House 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

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.

HSB 241 - Airport Car Rental Facility Charges (A) - Under the bill, an aviation authority, airport commission, municipality, or other entity that operates an airport is authorized to require a rental vehicle business to impose a customer facility charge, as defined by the bill. The charge is paid by a customer who rents a vehicle at the airport.

The bill requires a charge to be listed as a separate line item on all vehicle rental agreements transacted at the airport. The charge must be uniformly calculated based either on a per-agreement or per-agreement-day basis at the discretion of the aviation authority, airport commission, municipality, or other entity that operates the airport. An entity that operates an airport is required to provide notice of any changes to the charge, including but not limited to the amount and calculation method, to every rental vehicle business not less than 30 days prior to the change taking effect.

The charge must be used only for financing, designing, constructing, operating, maintaining, acquiring, or otherwise improving the consolidated vehicle rental facilities and common-use transportation systems used to

transport customers between consolidated vehicle rental facilities and other airport facilities, including necessary equipment, vehicles, and facilities for such systems. The bill prohibits customer facility charge monies from being used for airport terminal expansion, gate expansion, runway expansion, or for any other purpose not authorized under the bill.

Referred to Ways and Means. Subcommittee: Jones, Best and Wilson.