



IowaAging.gov

AgingWatch

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The link to policy affecting older Iowans

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The Legislative Session Opens

The first session of the 85th General Assembly is under way. Today marks the end of the first week of session.

The week started with the appointment of and opening remarks from leadership of all branches of government. On Monday, each chamber heard introductory welcomes and remarks from their respective leadership. Please see the chart outlining the presiding officers and leaders in the Iowa Senate and Iowa House of Representatives for a full explanation of each role and the name of the legislator nominated to each role. ([page 6](#))

While many speeches were made, it is noteworthy that Senator Pam Jochum, the new President of the Senate, spoke of the importance of keeping older Iowans in their homes. She stated, "This session, let's keep investing in the services that allow our older citizens to stay in their own homes."

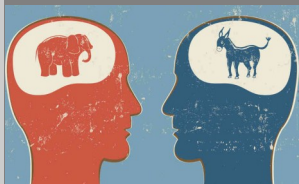
Tuesday marked the presentation of the Governor's Condition of the State address. The Governor presented the initiatives of the Administration, which include property tax reform, education reform, and additional funding to support Medicaid, medical residency programs, and a rural physician loan repayment program. The Governor also discussed a new effort to bring workforce skills to unemployed and under-employed Iowans. The effort is called "Skilled Iowa." For more information on any of these initiatives or to see the Governor's presentation in full, click on the following link: <https://governor.iowa.gov/>

Chief Justice Mark Cady delivered the Condition of the Judiciary address on Wednesday. As the last branch of government to address the Legislature, Cady stated, "We, the three branches of government, are a team poised for great success, and it is incumbent upon us - its leaders - to forge and implement a plan that achieves this success for all Iowans."

The Legislature spent much of the week conducting routine opening duties. Legislators were assigned to committees, committee rules were adopted, and seat selection occurred.

(continued on page 2)

Did You Know?



This year, Iowa is 1 of only 3 states where control of the legislature is split between two parties.

Did You Know?



The Iowa Senate has

50
members.

The Iowa House has

100
members.

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Many bills have been filed since the start of session. AgingWatch will bring bills to the attention of readers if the bill will or may impact older Iowans.

Two bills were introduced by Representative Hunter on January 16, 2013, that may be of interest to readers. These bills are:

House File 31 – An Act relating to patient safety by establishing a nurse staffing plan, a collaborative nurse staffing committee, a patient safety committee, and reporting for nurses, and including effective date provisions. The bill provides that hospitals, nursing facilities, and mental health institutes shall establish collaborative nurse staffing committees comprised of nonsupervisory staff nurses. The bill also provides that a hospital, nursing facility, or mental health institute must develop, implement, and comply with a patient safety plan. Finally, the bill provides that a hospital, nursing facility, mental health institute, or school district shall not discharge or otherwise retaliate against a nurse employed by the entity as a reprisal when the nurse reports an action or event to the entity, Department of Inspections and Appeals, or other applicable state agency and the nurse reasonably believes the action or event is a material violation of health and safety laws or is a breach of public safety that has caused serious harm to or creates a significant probability of serious harm to patients or health care recipients.

House File 42 – An Act relating to reduced fees for camping and other special privileges for certain older Iowans. This bill amends Code section 461A.47 to provide that if the natural resource commission fixes fees for camping and other special privileges, such fees shall be reduced for residents who are 60 years of age or older to at least half that amount.

85th Iowa General Assembly 2013 Iowa Legislative Session Timetable

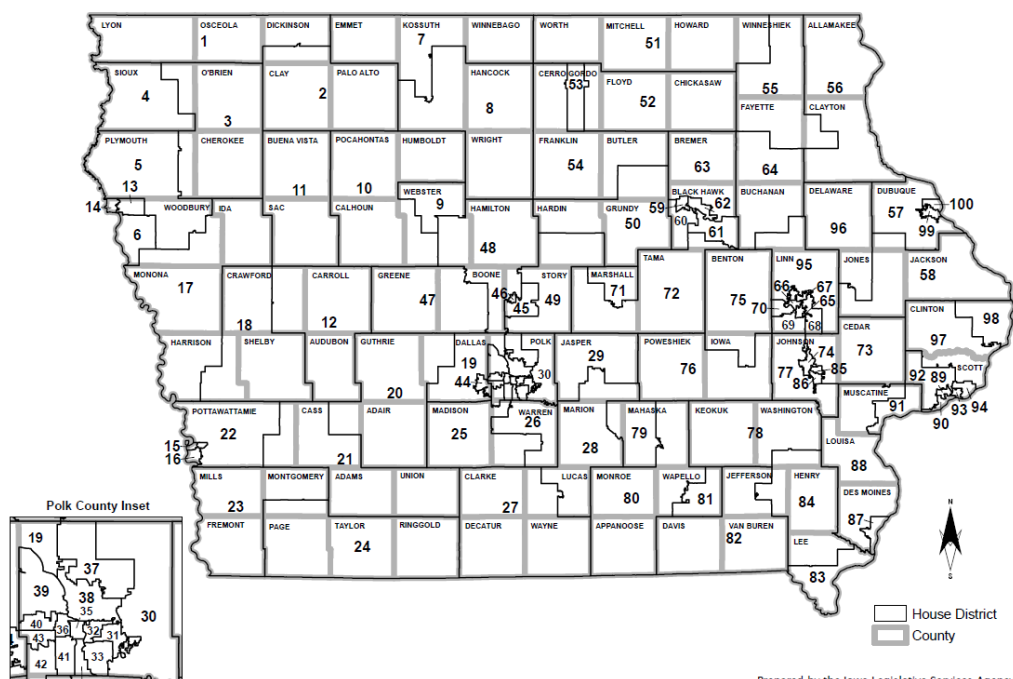
January 14	First Day of Session
March 8	Final date for Senate bills to be reported out of Senate committees. Final date for House bills to be reported out of House committees.
March 18-22	Senate considers only Senate bills and unfinished business. House considers only House bills and unfinished business.
April 5	Final date for Senate bills to be reported out of House committees. Final date for House bills to be reported out of Senate committees.
April 8-12	Senate considers only House bills and unfinished business. House considers only Senate bills and unfinished business.
April 15	<i>Primarily</i> only the following bills are eligible for consideration: Appropriations, Ways/Means, Government Oversight
May 3	110 th day of session (per diem expenses end)

Know Your Legislators

In all, 37 fresh faces found their seats in the state Capitol on Monday. A slim Republican majority in the House and a slim Democratic majority in the Senate make control of the legislature split between two parties. The following three pages include maps of districting and a quick reference guide to Iowa legislators.

IOWA HOUSE DISTRICTS

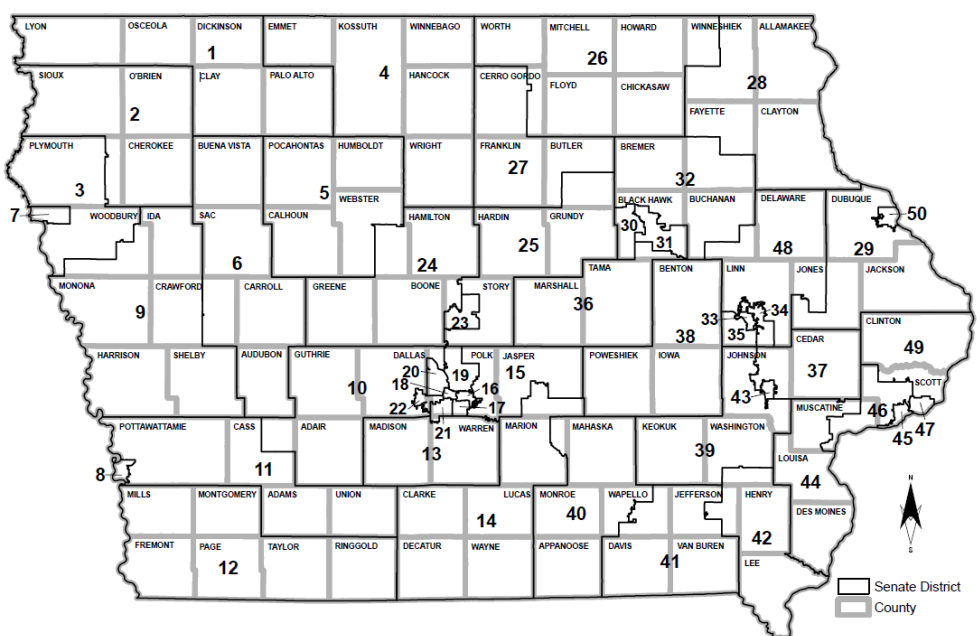
Effective Beginning with the Elections in 2012 for the 85th General Assembly



Prepared by the Iowa Legislative Services Agency

IOWA SENATE DISTRICTS

Effective Beginning with the Elections in 2012 for the 85th General Assembly



Prepared by the Iowa Legislative Services Agency

Iowa Legislators of the 85th General Assembly

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House District 1 Rep. Jeff Smith (R)	House District 2 Rep. Megan Hess (R)	House District 3 Rep. Dan Huseman (R)	House District 4 Rep. Dwayne Alons (R)
Senate District 1 Senator David Johnson (R)		Senate District 2 Senator Randy Feenstra (R)	
House District 5 Rep. Chuck Soderberg (R)	House District 6 Rep. Ron Jorgensen (R)	House District 7 Rep. Tedd Gassman (R)	House District 8 Rep. Henry Rayhons (R)
Senate District 3 Senator Bill Anderson (R)		Senate District 4 Senator Dennis Guth (R)	
House District 9 Rep. Helen Miller (D)	House District 10 Rep. Tom Shaw (R)	House District 11 Rep. Gary Worthan (R)	House District 12 Rep. Dan Muhlbauer (D)
Senate District 5 Senator Daryl Beall (D)		Senate District 6 Mark Segebart (R)	
House District 13 Rep. Chris Hall (D)	House District 14 Rep. David Dawson (D)	House District 15 Rep. Mark Brandenburg (R)	House District 16 Rep. Mary Ann Hanusa (R)
Senate District 7 Senator Rick Bertrand (R)		Senate District 8 Senator Mike Gronstall (D)	
House District 17 Rep. Matt Windschitl (R)	House District 18 Rep. Jason Schultz (R)	House District 19 Rep. Ralph Watts (R)	House District 20 Rep. Clel Baudler (R)
Senate District 9 Senator Nancy Boettger (R)		Senate District 10 Senator Jake Chapman (R)	
House District 21 Rep. Jack Drake (R)	House District 22 Rep. Greg Forristall (R)	House District 23 Rep. Mark Costello (R)	House District 24 Rep. Cecil Dolecheck (R)
Senate District 11 Senator Hubert Houser (R)		Senate District 12 Senator Joni Ernst (R)	
House District 25 Rep. Julian Garrett (R)	House District 26 Rep. Scott Ourth (D)	House District 27 Rep. Joel Fry (R)	House District 28 Rep. Greg Heartsill (R)
Senate District 13 Senator Kent Sorenson (R)		Senate District 14 Amy Sinclair (R)	
House District 29 Rep. Dan Kelley (D)	House District 30 Rep. Joe Riding (D)	House District 31 Rep. Rick Olson (D)	House District 32 Rep. Ruth Ann Gaines (D)
Senate District 15 Senator Dennis Black (D)		Senate District 16 Senator Dick Dearden (D)	
House District 33 Rep. Kevin McCarthy (D)	House District 34 Rep. Bruce Hunter (D)	House District 35 Rep. Ako Abdul-Samad (D)	House District 36 Marti Anderson (D)
Senate District 17 Senator Jack Hatch (D)		Senate District 18 Senator Janet Petersen (D)	
House District 37 Rep. John Landon (R)	House District 38 Rep. Kevin Koester (R)	House District 39 Jake Highfill (R)	House District 40 John Forbes (D)
Senate District 19 Senator Jack Whitver (R)		Senate District 20 Senator Brad Zaun (R)	

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House District 41 Rep. Jo Oldson (D)	House District 42 Rep. Peter Cownie (R)	House District 43 Rep. Chris Hagenow (R)	House District 44 Rep. Rob Taylor (R)
Senate District 21 Senator Matt McCoy (D)		Senate District 22 Senator Charles Schneider (R)	
House District 45 Rep. Beth Wessel-Kroeschell (D)	House District 46 Rep. Lisa Heddens (D)	House District 47 Rep. Chip Baltimore (R)	House District 48 Rep. Rob Bacon (R)
Senate District 23 Senator Herman Quirmbach (D)		Senate District 24 Senator Jerry Behn (R)	
House District 49 Rep. Dave Deyoe (R)	House District 50 Rep. Pat Grassley (R)	House District 51 Rep. Josh Byrnes (R)	House District 52 Special Election 1/22/13
Senate District 25 Senator Bill Dix (R)		Senate District 26 Senator Mary Jo Wilhelm (D)	
House District 53 Rep. Sharon Steckman (D)	House District 54 Rep. Linda Upmeyer (R)	House District 55 Rep. Roger Thomas (D)	House District 56 Rep. Patti Ruff (D)
Senate District 27 Senator Amanda Ragan (D)		Senate District 28 Senator Michael Breitbach (R)	
House District 57 Rep. Nancy Dunkel (D)	House District 58 Rep. Brian Moore (R)	House District 59 Rep. Bob Kressig (D)	House District 60 Rep. Walt Rogers (R)
Senate District 29 Senator Tod Bowman (D)		Senate District 30 Senator Jeff Danielson (D)	
House District 61 Rep. Anesa Kajtazvoic (D)	House District 62 Rep. Deb Berry (D)	House District 63 Rep. Sandy Salmon (R)	House District 64 Rep. Bruce Bearinger (D)
Senate District 31 Senator Bill Dotzler (D)		Senate District 32 Senator Brian Schoenjaahn (D)	
House District 65 Rep. Tyler Olson (D)	House District 66 Rep. Art Staed (D)	House District 67 Rep. Kraig Paulsen (R)	House District 68 Rep. Daniel Lundby (D)
Senate District 33 Senator Rob Hogg (D)		Senate District 34 Senator Liz Mathis (D)	
House District 69 Rep. Kristin Running-Marquardt (D)	House District 70 Rep. Todd Taylor (D)	House District 71 Rep. Mark Smith (D)	House District 72 Rep. Dean Fisher (R)
Senate District 35 Senator Wally Horn (D)		Senate District 36 Senator Steve Soddors (D)	
House District 73 Rep. Bobby Kaufmann (R)	House District 74 Rep. Dave Jacoby (D)	House District 75 Rep. Dawn Pettengill (R)	House District 76 Rep. David Maxwell (R)
Senate District 37 Senator Bob Dvorsky (D)		Senate District 38 Senator Tim Kapucian (R)	
House District 77 Rep. Sally Stutsman (D)	House District 78 Rep. Jarad Klein (R)	House District 79 Rep. Guy Vander Linden (R)	House District 80 Rep. Larry Sheets (R)
Senate District 39 Senator Sandy Greiner (R)		Senate District 40 Senator Ken Rozenboom (R)	

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House District 81 Rep. Mary Gaskill (D)	House District 82 Rep. Curt Hanson (D)	House District 83 Rep. Jerry Kearns (D)	House District 84 Rep. Dave Heaton (R)
Senate District 41 Senator Mark Chelgren (R)		Senate District 42 Senator Rich Taylor (D)	
House District 85 Rep. Vicki Lensing (D)	House District 86 Rep. Mary Mascher (D)	House District 87 Rep. Dennis Cohoon (D)	House District 88 Rep. Tom Sands (R)
Senate District 43 Senator Joe Bolkcom (D)		Senate District 44 Senator Thomas Courtney (D)	
House District 89 Rep. Jim Lykam (D)	House District 90 Rep. Cindy Winckler (D)	House District 91 Rep. Mark Lofgren (R)	House District 92 Rep. Frank Wood (D)
Senate District 45 Senator Joe Seng (D)		Senate District 46 Senator Chris Brase (D)	
House District 93 Rep. Phyllis Thede (D)	House District 94 Rep. Linda Miller (R)	House District 95 Rep. Quentin Stanerson (R)	House District 96 Rep. Lee Hein (R)
Senate District 47 Senator Roby Smith (R)		Senate District 48 Senator Dan Zumbach (R)	
House District 97 Rep. Steven Olson (R)	House District 98 Rep. Mary Wolfe (D)	House District 99 Rep. Pat Murphy (D)	House District 100 Rep. Charles Isenhardt (D)
Senate District 49 Senator Rita Hart (D)		Senate District 50 Senator Pam Jochum (D)	

Reports from the Iowa Department on Aging

The Iowa Department on Aging was mandated to develop two reports for this legislative session.

Report on the Office of the Substitute Decision Maker

The Office of the Substitute Decision Maker was briefly funded in 2008/2009. Based on the success of the pilot program, the report shows the funding and staffing necessary to implement the Substitute Decision Maker Program on a permanent basis statewide.

Elder Abuse Task Force

The Elder Abuse Task Force reviewed the elder abuse situation and current applicable Iowa laws. It looked at laws of other states and projects in the elder abuse field. The report includes recommendations to prevent elder abuse and assist victims of elder abuse in the State of Iowa.

A full copy of these reports can be found on the website [here](#). AgingWatch will keep readers informed regarding any action resulting from these reports.

Presiding Officers and Leaders of General Assembly 85

The following is a guide and brief description of duties for the leadership roles in the Iowa legislature.

	Title	Name	Definition
Iowa House of Representatives	Speaker	Kraig Paulsen <i>Republican</i>	The Speaker is the presiding officer of the House of Representatives. The Speaker is elected by the majority party caucus, followed by confirmation of the full House. The Speaker calls the chamber to order and decides all questions of order and rule relative to procedure.
	Speaker Pro Tempore	Steven N. Olson <i>Republican</i>	The Speaker Pro Tempore is selected by the majority party. The primary role is to assume the role of the Speaker if absent.
	Majority Leader	Linda Upmeyer <i>Republican</i>	Elected by the House members of the majority party, the Majority Leader serves as the floor leader of the majority party and, with the Speaker, serves as the caucus spokesperson in various forums. The Majority Leader, with the Speaker, also structures the chamber agenda, committee assignments, and leads action on the floor by selecting which items to call up for debate.
	Minority Leader	Kevin McCarthy <i>Democrat</i>	Elected by the House members of the minority party, the Minority Leader is spokesperson for their caucus, recommends assignments to committees and ensures the minority party's views are presented on the floor.
Iowa Senate	President	Pam Jochum <i>Democrat</i>	The President of the Senate is the presiding officer of this chamber. The President is chosen by the majority party members then formally elected by the entire membership of the Senate. The President calls the Senate to order and decides all questions of order and rule relative to procedure.
	President Pro Tempore	Steven J. Soddors <i>Democrat</i>	The President Pro Tempore is selected by the majority party. The primary role is to assume the role of the President if absent.
	Majority Leader	Michael Gronstal <i>Democrat</i>	Elected by the Senate members of the majority party, the Majority Leader oversees construction of a legislative agenda, serves as caucus spokesperson, issues debate and committee schedules and assigns members to committees and, with the President, determines committee chairs.
	Minority Leader	Bill Dix <i>Republican</i>	The Minority Leader is the member of the minority party in the Iowa Senate elected by the party's members. The Minority Leader is spokesperson for their caucus, recommends assignments to committees and ensures the minority party's views are presented on the floor.

Stay informed. Stay engaged.

Citizens can be a part of the decision-making process during the legislative session. AgingWatch will keep its radar on bills that may impact older Iowans. The Legislative Services Agency provides this information on participation.

[Participation in Making Iowa Laws](#)

Commission on Aging

Sanctioned by the Iowa Code, the Iowa Commission on Aging is charged with serving as a visible advocate for older Iowans by establishing policies for reviewing and commenting upon all state plans, budgets, and policies which affect older Iowans. The Commission meets at least four times each year.

There are 11 members, 7 of whom are appointed by the Governor. At least 4 of the 7 must be 55 years of age or older, and no more than 4 can belong to the same political party. The 4 remaining members are Senators or Representatives appointed by their chamber of the legislature to serve as non-voting members.

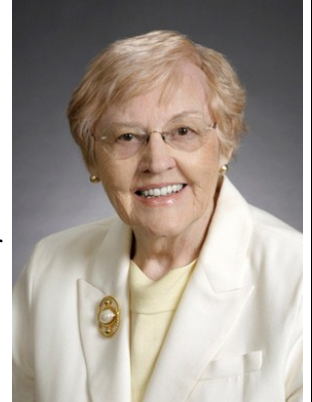
Commission on Aging Chairperson Betty Grandquist

Each month Aging Watch features a member of the Iowa Commission on Aging. With gratitude for her service, we focus on Commission Chair Betty Grandquist.

Entering her twenty-fifth year as an advocate for older Iowans, Iowa Commission on Aging Chair Betty Grandquist, at the age of eighty-four, is the epitome of positive aging.

Before entering the work force, Betty spent twenty-five years raising three children and working to obtain her baccalaureate degree (Drake University) in Psychology and her Master's degree (The University of Iowa) in Social Work.

Betty's career began in 1985, when she was hired for the position of public health director for the health, planning and development office for the Iowa Department of Public Health. In 1987 Governor Branstad reached across party lines and appointed Democrat Grandquist as the Director of the Iowa Department of Elder Affairs, now called the Iowa Department on Aging, where she spent twelve years as the leader of Iowa's Aging Network.



At an age when some start thinking about retirement, Betty was just hitting her stride when she followed her tenure as the Department Director with an additional seven years as Executive Director of the Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging (IAA.) In 2009 the Betty Grandquist Lifetime Achievement Award was created in her honor by the Iowa Department on Aging. The annual award recognizes a volunteer or professional who has made significant lifetime contributions in the field of aging. In 2010 Betty was named board chair for the Iowa Caregivers Association and served one term in that capacity. She was elected chair of the Commission on Aging in April 2012.

Betty shares that some of the biggest changes she has witnessed while working for the betterment of older Iowans, and their families, is that today there are 'many technical and environmental changes that can help us all age better' citing the growing use of cell phones and computer technologies by the older generation. "The number of our older citizens that are computer-savvy is rising every day, and things like Facebook, Twitter, E-mail and Skyping help older Iowans remain connected, living and thriving in their homes and communities." Betty observes that today's cars help keep older drivers on the road and safer with GPS travel guidance and safety features such as better dashboard lighting systems, airbags and parking assistance technologies built into the newer vehicles.

What future challenges do aging Iowans face? Betty points out that the simple

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fact is we are an aging nation and state (Iowa ranks third per capita in people one hundred and above and fifth in the nation in people age sixty-five and older.) As baby-boomers retire and age, they will need supportive services. With that comes the challenge of keeping up with the array of services and supports needed to keep older citizens living in their communities and in their own homes. “We need to continue to reach out to help older Iowans, their caregivers and those disabled to let them know about the supportive services that they can get through their local area agencies on aging.”

Betty is excited about Iowa’s future as it pertains to those now ‘aging in place’ in Iowa. “With the sharing of information, technologies and services through our local area agencies on aging, as well as our other partners in aging, we are confident that those who need and want our help will be offered a vast array of services and supports so that they can live out their lives as active community citizens”.

Chair Grandquist’s term as a commissioner ends in April of 2015.

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Please feel free to forward AgingWatch to others who are interested in issues and programs that impact older Iowans.

AgingWatch is provided in the spirit of information and education. The opinions expressed by the contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Department or its programs. The Department shall not be liable for any damages that may result from errors or omissions in information distributed in this publication.

AgingWatch will be published regularly during the legislative session and monthly in the interim by the Iowa Department on Aging. Recipients of the e-mail notice of publication are encouraged to share it with others.

The current issue may be found on the Department’s website, www.iowaaging.gov. Past issues are archived in the “Publications/Information” section.



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The Mission of the Iowa Department on Aging is to develop a comprehensive, coordinated and cost-effective system of long term living and community support services that help individuals maintain health and independence in their homes and communities.