FISCAL UPDATE March 8, 1999

 Legislative Fiscal Bureau (515) 281-5279 FAX 281-8451

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Status of Appropriations Bills



| **Appropriations Subcommittee Bills** |
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| **Appropriations Subcommittee** |  | **LSB/File #** |  | **Status** |
| Admin./Regulation |  | SSB 1159 |  | Passed Joint Subcommittee on March 2. Bill starts in Senate. |
| Ag./Natural Resources |  |   |  | In Joint Subcommittee. Bill starts in House. |
| Economic Development |  |   |  | In Joint Subcommittee. Bill starts in House. |
| Education |  |   |  | In Joint Subcommittee. Bill starts in Senate. |
| Health/Human Rights |  |   |  | Passed Joint Subcommittee on March 4. Bill starts in House. |
| Human Services |  |  |  | In Joint Subcommittee. Bill starts in House. |
| Justice System |  | LSB 1134S |  | In Joint Subcommittee. Bill starts in Senate. |
| Oversight & Comm. |  |  |  | In Joint Subcommittee. Bill starts in House. |
| Trans., Infrastruc- ture, & Caps. |  | SSB 1150 |  | Transportation Appropriations Bill passed Joint Subcom-mittee on March 2. Bill starts in Senate.Infrastructure Bill in Joint Subcommittee. Bill starts in House. |

| **Other Appropriations Bills** |
| --- |
| **Subject** |  | **File #** |  | **Status** |
| DOT Administration - Nonreversion |  | SF 76 |  | Passed Senate Approps. on Feb. 16. |
| Teacher Mentoring - $300,000 GF  |  | SF 232 |  | Passed Senate on March 4. |
| Fed. Block Grant  |  | SF 283 |  | Passed Senate on March 4. |
| FY 1999 Supplemental |  | SSB 1116 |  | In Senate Approps. |
| Embedded Chip Supplemental |  | SSB 1171 |  | In Senate Approps. |
| Substance Abuse/Sexual Abuse (Meth Bill) |  | SSB 1175 |  | In Senate Approps. |
| Oil Overcharge |  | HF 332 |  | Passed House on March 2. In Senate Approps. |
| Substance Abuse/Sexual Abuse (Meth Bill) |  | HF 514 |  | Passed House Approps. on March 3. |

STAFF CONTACT: Holly Lyons (Ext. 17845)

Administration and Regulation Appropriations Subcommittee

**Admin./Regulation Sub.** The Administration and Regulation Appropriations Subcommittee met on March 2, 3, and 4.

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**Vacant FTE Positions** On March 2, the Legislative Fiscal Bureau distributed and discussed information on vacant FTE positions in the following departments:

* Office of the Treasurer
* Department of Inspections and Appeals
* Department of General Services
* Department of Commerce

**Discussion** The Subcommittee discussed the information and heard responses from representatives from the departments. The Subcommittee decided not to eliminate any of the vacant FTE positions at the present time.

**Amendments** On March 3, amendments to SSB 1159 (Administration and Regulation Appropriations Bill) were distributed to members of the Subcommittee.

**Budget Decisions** The Subcommittee met March 4 and approved proposed FY 2000 appropriations for agencies in the Subcommittee.

**SSB 1159** The Subcommittee approved SSB 1159 (Administration and Regulation Appropriations Bill), which appropriates $88.6 million from the General Fund and 1,923.6 FTE positions for FY 2000. This is an increase of $427,000 (4.8%) and 27.4 FTE positions (1.4%) compared to estimated FY 1999, and a decrease of $1.2 million (1.4%) and 4.9 FTE positions (0.3%) compared to the Governor’s recommendation. Significant changes include:

**Auditor of State** **Auditor of State**

* An increase of $75,000 to audit two new prisons.
* An increase of $20,000 for office supplies and travel.
* A decrease of $40,000 for data processing and equipment.

**Ethics/Campaign Discl.**  **Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board**

* A decrease of $8,000 due to salary savings.
* A decrease of $5,000 for one-time funding in FY 1999 for a computer.

**Commerce** **Department of Commerce**



* An increase of $50,000 for an Alcoholic Beverages Education Fund.
* A decrease of $31,000 for the Professional Licensing Division, Real Estate Trust Account Audit Program. The funding will be provided by the Housing Improvement Fund with the Department of Economic Development.
* A decrease of $71,000 and 1.0 FTE position to transfer an Administration Law Judge position to the Department of Inspections and Appeals.
* A decrease of $200,000 for data processing.

**General Services** **Department of General Services**

* An increase of $38,000 and 1.0 FTE position for an Accounting Technician in the Administration Division.
* An increase of $193,000 for increased lease costs for the Rental Division.
* An overall decrease of $110,000 for the Property Management Division.

**Governor** **Office of the Governor**

* An increase of $254,000 and 2.0 FTE positions to shift the Office of State-Federal Relations to the Office of the Governor.
* An increase of $20,000 for support costs for the General Office Division.

**Inspections & Appeals** **Department of Inspections and Appeals**



* An increase of $200,000 and 5.75 FTE positions for the Foster Care Review Board.
* An increase of $214,000 and 3.0 FTE positions for the transfer of three Administrative Law Judges to the Appeals and Fair Hearings Division from other departments.
* An overall increase of $152,000 for the Health Facilities Division.
* An increase of $85,000 to regulate the new excursion gambling boat in Osceola.
* An overall decrease of $52,000 to the Department for reductions to the base budget.

**Management** **Department of Management**

* An increase of $100,000 for the State Strategic Plan.
* A decrease of $69,000 and 1.0 FTE position for the Council on Human Investment.

**Personnel** **Department of Personnel** - An increase of $100,000 for the Deferred Compensation Program which is being funded by lottery dollars in FY 1999.

**Revenue & Finance** **Department of Revenue and Finance**

* A decrease of $138,000 and 2.0 FTE positions to transfer two Administrative Law Judges to the Department of Inspections and Appeals.
* A decrease of $100,000 for data processing, equipment, and printing.

**Secretary of State** **Office of the Secretary of State**

**New Program**

* An increase of $30,000 for the Student Citizenship Program. This is a new program.
* An increase of $35,000 for costs associated with the biennial printing of the Redbook.
* A decrease of $51,000 for costs of outside services, data processing, and office equipment.

**State-Federal Relations** **Office of State-Federal Relations** – A decrease of $274,000 and 3.0 FTE positions to move the Office to the Office of the Governor.

**Treasurer** **Office of the Treasurer** – An increase of $25,000 for one-time funding of office expenses.

**NOBA**

**Bill Summary** Copies of the Notes on Bills and Amendments (NOBA) will be available from the LFB later this week.

STAFF CONTACT: Shawn Snyder (Ext. 16765) Ron Robinson (Ext. 16256)

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

**Agric./Natural Res. Sub.** The Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee met on March 2, 3, and 4.

**FY 2000 Budget Request** On March 2, Larry Bean, Division Administrator, Energy and Geology Division, Department of Natural Resources, discussed the FY 2000 budget request for the Energy Bureau.

**Discussion** On March 3 and 4, the Subcommittee discussed FY 2000 appropriations.

STAFF CONTACT: Sherry Weikum (Ext. 17846)

Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee

**Economic Development Sub.** The Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee met on March 4 and discussed FY 2000 budget priorities.

**Next Week**  The Subcommittee has scheduled meetings on March 10 and 11 at 7:30 a.m. in Room 1 to review a draft of the FY 2000 appropriations bill and consider amendments.

STAFF CONTACT: Jeff Robinson (Ext. 14614)

Education Appropriations Subcommittee

**Education Subcomm.** The Senate members of the Education Appropriations Subcommittee met on Tuesday, March 2. The Subcommittee discussed funding priorities. No formal actions or decisions were made.

STAFF CONTACT: Mary Shipman (Ext. 14617) Paige Piper/Bach (Ext. 17942)

Health and Human Rights Appropriations Subcommittee

#### FY 2000

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**Technology Initiatives** On March 2, the Subcommittee met and reviewed proposed appropriations for the seven departments funded by the Subcommittee. On March 3, the members discussed technology initiatives related to the Subcommittee and ranked them as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Agency | Project | Cost | Ranking |
| Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning | Justice Data Warehouse | $ 1,108,972 | 1 |
| Veterans Home | Central Area Network | $ 273,560 | 1 |
| Department of Public Health | Digital Imaging | $ 148,000 | 1 |
| Department of Elder Affairs | Hardware and Software | $ 40,000 | 1 |

**Bill Passed** On March 4, the Subcommittee passed a joint Health and Human Rights Appropriations Subcommittee Bill. The Bill appropriates $91.5 million and 1,444.9 FTE positions, an increase of $1.2 million (1.3%) and 101.7 FTE positions (7.5%) compared to estimated FY 1999. Significant General Fund changes include:

**Dept. for the Blind Department for the Blind** - An increase of $125,000 and 2.0 FTE positions to provide additional in-home assessments and training in daily living activities and for the development of community support systems for blind Iowans.

**Elder Affairs Department of Elder Affairs**

* An increase of $60,000 and 1.0 FTE for an ombudsman.
* An increase of $80,000 for Alzheimer’s support.
* An increase of $60,000 for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

**Public Health Department of Public Health**

* Addictive Disorders – A decrease of $525,000. The General Fund decrease is offset by an allocation of $525,000 of the appropriation to the Department of Public Health from the Gambling Treatment Fund.

* Child and Adolescent Wellness
1. A decrease of $150,000 to reduce funding for the Physician Care for Children Program due to Healthy and Well Kids In Iowa (HAWK-I) Program coverage.
2. An increase of $50,000 to improve access to dental care for low-income children.
* Community Capacity
1. An increase of $250,000 for core public health functions of local boards of health.
2. An increase of $50,000 and 1.0 FTE position for the Volunteer Health Care Provider Program.
* Infectious Diseases – An increase of $100,000 to expand surveillance and investigation of infectious diseases.



* Public Protection
1. An increase of $79,000 and 1.0 FTE position to assist local boards of health in developing environmental health programs.
2. An increase of $58,000 and 1.0 FTE position for administration of the Impaired Practitioner Program (Boards of Dental and Medical Examiners).

**Human Rights Department of Human Rights**

* Persons with Disabilities - An increase of $71,000 and 1.0 FTE position for a division administrator.
* Status of Women - An increase of $76,000 for programs servicing displaced homemakers.

**Vets Affairs Commission on Veterans Affairs**



* Commission on Veterans Affairs
1. An increase of $12,000 for a new copy machine.
2. An increase of $10,000 for contracted computer systems support.
3. An increase of $10,000 for training provided for County Commissions of Veterans Affairs. Restores funding to FY 1997 level.
* Iowa Veterans Home
1. An increase of $55,000 for the annual cost adjustment for contracted housekeeping services.
2. An increase of $728,000 for costs of dietary services.
* An increase of 88.3 FTE positions to allow for the hiring of State employees to perform dietary service functions.

**Statutory Changes** The Bill amends the Code of Iowa to appropriate receipts in the Gambling Treatment Fund to the Department of Public Health. Currently, the Code directs the Department to administer the fund, which does not require a legislative appropriation. The Bill also adds a new section to the Code to establish a Veterans License Fee Fund for the collection of fees paid for veterans license plates.

**NOBA**

**Bill Summary** Copies of the Notes on Bills and Amendments (NOBA) will be available from the LFB later this week.

STAFF CONTACT: Valerie Thacker (Ext. 15270) Jennifer Dean (Ext. 14613)

Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee

**Human Services Sub.** The Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee met the week of March 1 and conducted the following business:

* March 2 - Reviewed a proposed bill draft with staff from the Legislative Service Bureau.
* March 3 - Reviewed proposed intent language from the Department of Human Services and other proposed intent language.

**More Information** Additional information is available upon request from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau.

STAFF CONTACT: Deb Anderson (Ext. 16764) Sue Lerdal (Ext. 17794)

Oversight and Communications Appropriations Subcommittee

**Oversight & Commun. Sub.** The Oversight and Communications Appropriations Subcommittee met March 2, 3, and 4.

**FY 2000 Budget Requests** On March 2, the Subcommittee discussed the departmental budget requests for FY 2000.

**Technology Requests** On March 3, the Subcommittee began discussions of possible mechanisms to provide effective Executive Branch oversight of technology requests from all Executive Branch departments, and what the appropriate role is for the Legislature in reviewing technology issues.

**Proposed Department** On March 4, the Subcommittee reviewed two organizational approaches to the establishment of a new Department of Technology and agreed to proceed in refining the concepts and prepare legislation to offer to the General Assembly. The proposed new structure would include combining the following State agencies into a Department of Technology:



 **New Department**

* Information Technology Services
* Iowa Communications Network
* Iowa Public Television

**Next Week** The Subcommittee will be meeting next week to continue this effort.

STAFF CONTACT: Douglas Wulf (Ext. 13250) Glen Dickinson (Ext. 14616)

Transportation, Infrastructure, and Capitals Appropriations Subcommittee

**Trans., Infra., & Capitals** The Transportation, Infrastructure, and Capitals Appropriations Subcommittee met March 2 and heard presentations from the Departments of Management and Education pertaining to K-12 school infrastructure. The Subcommittee also passed the Transportation Appropriations Bill.

**Rebuild Iowa’s Schools Prg.** The Department of Management presented the Governor’s proposed Rebuild Iowa’s Schools Program to the Subcommittee. The Governor is recommending an appropriation of $10.0 million for FY 2000 and increases the appropriation by $10.0 million annually for five years until the Program reaches $50.0 million. The funds would be used to buy down interest rates on bonds issued by school districts for the repair and construction of facilities.

**K-12 Infrastructure** The Department of Education discussed issues related to the current condition of school infrastructure and the federal grant the Department received to address school infrastructure needs. The Department has received an $8.0 million federal grant for improvements to school buildings. The grant earmarks 35.0% of the funds for health, life, and fire safety improvements and 65.0% for new construction. The grant awards for the health, life, and fire safety projects will be made on May 20 and for the construction projects on July 15.

**Bill Passed** The Subcommittee also passed the Transportation Appropriations Bill, which appropriates a total of $260.5 million and 3,840.5 FTE positions to the Department of Transportation. This is an increase of $6.4 million (2.5%) and a decrease of 30.5 (0.8%) FTE positions compared to estimated FY 1999. The appropriations include: $4.1 million from the General Fund, $34.4 million from the Road Use Tax Fund, and $222.0 million from the Primary Road Fund. The following provides highlights of the Appropriations Bill:

* Appropriates $1.4 million from the General Fund for the Railroad Assistance Program, which is an increase of $235,000 compared to estimated FY 1999.



* Appropriates a total of $35.4 million from the Road Use Tax Fund and Primary Road Fund and authorizes 279.0 FTE positions to the Operations and Finance Division. This is an increase of $2.0 million and 8.0 FTE positions compared to estimated FY 1999.
* Appropriates a total of $6.5 million from the Road Use Tax Fund and Primary Road Fund and authorizes 95.5 FTE positions to the Administrative Services Division. This is a decrease of $117,000 compared to estimated FY 1999.
* Appropriates a total of $9.9 million from the Road Use Tax Fund, Primary Road Fund, and General Fund, and authorizes 182.0 FTE positions to the Planning and Programming Division. This is an increase of $458,000 and 8.0 FTE positions compared to estimated FY 1999.
* Appropriates $57.2 million from the Primary Road Fund and 1,138.0 FTE positions to the Project Development Division, which is an increase of $180,000 and a decrease of 36.0 FTE positions compared to estimated FY 1999.
* Appropriates $103.9 million from the Primary Road Fund and 1,591.0 FTE positions to the Maintenance Division, which is an increase of $336,000 and no change in FTE positions compared to estimated FY 1999.
* Appropriates a total of $25.9 million from the Road Use Tax Fund and Primary Road Fund and authorizes 555.0 FTE positions to the Motor Vehicle Division. This is an increase of $755,000 and a decrease of 8.0 FTE positions compared to estimated FY 1999.

Driver’s Licenses

* Appropriates $2.1 million from the Road Use Tax Fund for the lease of the Driver’s License Digitized Photo Imaging System, which is an increase of $493,000 compared to estimated FY 1999.



* Appropriates $500,000 from the Road Use Tax Fund for the construction of a scale facility in Clarke County.
* Appropriates $50,000 from the Road Use Tax Fund to support Iowa's involvement in the North America's Super Highway Corridor Coalition.
* Appropriates $400,000 from the Primary Road Fund for improvements to waste water systems at DOT maintenance garages. This is an increase of $100,000 compared to estimated FY 1999.



* Appropriates $2.5 million from the Primary Road Fund for the completion of construction of maintenance garages in Storm Lake, Allison, and Shenandoah.
* Appropriates $800,000 from the Primary Road Fund for the completion of a joint maintenance garage project in Floyd County.
* Eliminates a $500,000 Primary Road Fund appropriation for the construction of salt storage facilities.
* Appropriates $1.4 million from the Primary Road Fund for remodeling the second floor of the DOT Administration Building in Ames.
* Appropriates $200,000 from the Primary Road Fund for the replacement of heating systems in maintenance garages.
* Appropriates $100,000 from the Primary Road Fund for tuckpointing and repair of brick exteriors of DOT office buildings and maintenance garages.
* Appropriates $400,000 from the Primary Road Fund for replacement of roofs on buildings located on the DOT Ames Complex.
* Requires the DOT to maintain and make available the parking areas of the former Clear Lake rest area for use for commercial vehicle parking.

**NOBA**

**Bill Summary** Copies of the Notes on Bills and Amendments (NOBA) will be available from the LFB early this week.

STAFF CONTACT: David Reynolds (Ext. 16934)

Block Grant and Federal Funds Bill – SF 283 Passes Senate



**SF 283 – Block Grant Bill** On March 4, the House passed SF 283 (Federal Block Grant Bill). The Bill appropriates $135.0 million of federal block grant funds, a decrease of $1.8 million (1.3%) compared to FY 1999. The Bill appropriates:

* $11.9 million to the Department of Public Health for the Substance Abuse Block Grant.
* $2.7 million to the Department of Human Services for the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant.
* $7.0 million to the Department of Public Health for the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant.
* $2.1 million to the Department of Public Health for the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant.



* $5.9 million to the Office of the Governor for the Drug Enforcement and Abuse Prevention Coordinator for the Drug Control and System Improvement Block Grant.
* $1.6 million to the Office of the Governor for the Drug Enforcement and Abuse Prevention Coordinator for the Stop Violence Against Women Block Grant.
* $322,000 to the Office of the Governor for the Drug Enforcement and Abuse Prevention Coordinator for the Local Law Enforcement Grant Program.
* $514,000 to the Office of the Governor for the Drug Enforcement and Abuse Prevention Coordinator for the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners Formula Grant.
* $5.4 million to the Department of Human Rights for the Community Services Block Grant.
* $29.9 million to the Department of Economic Development for the Community Development Block Grant.
* $20.0 million to the Department of Human Rights for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant.
* $20.4 million to the Department of Human Services for the Social Services Block Grant.
* $27.1 million to the Department of Human Services for the Child Care and Development Block Grant.

**Federal Funds** Senate File 283 also provides the mechanism for State agencies to receive $2.333 billion in federal and nonstate funds based upon the purposes set forth in the grants, receipts, or conditions accompanying the funds, unless otherwise provided by law.

**NOBA**

**Bill Summary** Copies of the Notes on Bills and Amendments (NOBA) are available from the LFB.

STAFF CONTACT: Valerie Thacker (Ext. 15270) Jennifer Dean (Ext. 14613)

Oil Overcharge Bill – HF 332 Passes House



**Oil Overcharge - HF 332** The House passed HF 332 (Oil Overcharge Appropriations Bill) on March 2. The Bill appropriates petroleum overcharge funds for FY 2000 to the Department of Human Rights and the Department of Natural Resources. The Bill:

* Appropriates $560,000 to the Department of Human Rights for qualifying energy conservation programs for low-income housing. This is a decrease of $140,000 compared to the FY 1999 appropriation.
* Appropriates $90,000 to the Department of Natural Resources for energy conservation and extension purposes. This is a decrease of $25,000 compared to the FY 1999 appropriation.
* Appropriates $175,000 to the Department of Natural Resources for administrative functions. This is a decrease of $25,000 compared to the FY 1999 appropriation.

**NOBA**

**Bill Summary** Copies of the Notes on Bills and Amendments (NOBA) will be available from the LFB.

STAFF CONTACT: Deb Kozel (Ext. 16767)

METHAMPHETAMINE BILL - HF 514 PASSES HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

**HF 514 – Meth Bill** On March 3, the House Appropriations Committee passed House File 514 (Methamphetamine Bill). The Bill appropriates a total of $3.4 million of General Fund money, transfers $60,000 of federal money, and transfers $30,000 of other fund money. The Bill appropriates or transfers the following:

* Appropriates $505,000 to the Division of Narcotics Enforcement for six agents.
* Appropriates $81,000 to the Division of Criminal Investigations for two criminalists.

* Appropriates $980,000 for the establishment of a clandestine methamphetamine laboratory emergency response team within the Department of Public Safety.
* Appropriates $100,000 to the Department of Corrections for the establishment of youth leadership model programs.
* Transfer $60,000 from moneys received by the Governor’s Alliance on Substance Abuse from the federal Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program to the Judicial Branch.
* Appropriates $62,000 to the Department of Human Services for the State Training School at Eldora.
* Appropriates $1.5 million to the Department of Public Health for additional methamphetamine treatment.
* Appropriates $30,000 for the development of a model substance abuse prevention program.
* Appropriates $20,000 for the planning and holding of a youth leadership conference on mentoring.



* Transfers $30,000 from the Health Insurance Surplus Account to the Department of Personnel for a labor management substance abuse education program.
* Appropriates $50,000 to the Department of Education for communities to participate in a strengthening families program.

STAFF CONTACT: Jennifer Dean (Ext. 14613) Christina Schaefer (Ext. 16301)

Beginning Teacher Program Bill - SF 232 Passes Senate

**SF 232** Senate File 232 (Beginning Teacher Program/Mentoring) passed the Senate on March 3. The Bill appropriates $300,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Education to coordinate a Beginning Teacher Induction Program. The Bill specifies that a teacher serving as a mentor is eligible for a $500 award per semester of participation.

STAFF CONTACT: Paige Piper/Bach (Ext. 17942)

School Finance Working Committee Issues Recommendations

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**School Finance**  On March 2, the School Finance Working Committee issued its initial recommendations for revising the Iowa School Aid Foundation Formula. Committee members are Senators Redfern (Co-chairperson), Connolly, Kibbie, Redwine, and Rehberg, and Representatives Grundberg (Co-chairperson), Brunkhorst, Dolecheck, Thomas, and Wise.

**Nine Recommendations** The Committee makes nine recommendations for revising the school foundation formula. They include:

**Recommendation**

* Raise the regular program and special education foundation levels to 90.0 percent, and the uniform property tax levy to $6.00 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation.
* Address the current special education deficit by providing on-time funding for special education.
* Provide funding for talented and gifted programs through the foundation formula, shifting most of the cost for these programs from property taxes to State aid.
* Provide $4.0 million in assistance for school districts with transportation costs per pupil above 150% of the State average.
* For school districts experiencing declining enrollment, permit the utilization of the higher of either the most recent enrollment count or the average of the three most recent years’ enrollment counts.
* Provide regular program on-time funding for school districts experiencing enrollment increases.
* Restore the State share of instructional support program costs to 25%.
* Establish a new supplemental weighting for at-risk students.
* Eliminate or gradually phase-out existing K-12 funding formula components or programs that would appear to warrant reallocation, such as supplemental property tax payments authorized in Code, Section 257.15.

**Sunset Eliminated** In addition, the Committee recommends eliminating the “sunset clause” requiring legislative review of the school foundation formula every five years.

**1999 Interim Discussion** Committee members anticipate continuing their work during the 1999 interim. Issues they intend to address during the next interim include:

* Teacher and administrator salaries.
* Incorporating programs, such as Educational Excellence, Technology, and K-3 block grants, into the foundation formula.
* Limited English proficiency funding.
* At-risk student funding.
* School district reorganization incentives.
* Area Education Agency funding and programs.
* Phases I, II, and III of the Educational Excellence Program.
* Foundation formula weightings.
* Advanced placement programs and funding.

**Fiscal Estimates** Legislation addressing some of the first year recommendations will be introduced in the near future. Estimates for the costs associated with each recommendation are currently being prepared by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau.

STAFF CONTACT: Mike Lipsman (Ext. 17799)

Iowa Prison Population

**Prison Population** The following table shows Iowa’s prison population for February.





**Overcrowding** Overcrowding for the entire system was 131.0%, which is 17.8% above the January 1, 1998, national average. Overcrowding varies by facility. The women’s prison at Mitchellville is operating at 214.5% of design capacity, and the Newton minimum-security Release Center is 200.8% of design capacity. The new prisons at Newton and Ft. Dodge are still below full capacity as inmates continue to be moved into the facilities.

**Male Populations** The Anamosa, Mt. Pleasant, and Rockwell City institutions show decreases in the male inmate populations as a result of opening the new Newton and Ft. Dodge facilities. Much of the decrease for Mitchellville women inmates is attributed to moving 101 women to a prison in Virginia and increasing the number housed in the women’s wing at Oakdale.

**Population Increasing** Between December 11, 1998, and February 19, 1999, the prison system experienced a decline of 133 inmates. Over the past two weeks, the population has begun to increase again, adding 35 inmates as of March 5. The Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division was asked in January to examine this decline. Using data from the past decade, they observed seasonal fluctuations in prison admissions. New court-ordered commitments, while declining in calendar 1998, still remained greater than all previous calendar quarters except the fourth quarter of calendar 1997. During the same period, paroles, work releases, and expirations of sentences increased. The combined effects yielded the decrease in the prison population seen in the previous two months. The Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division concluded that the changes are within the bounds of previous fluctuations and continued growth in the prison population can be expected.



STAFF CONTACT: Dwayne Ferguson (Ext. 16561) Christina Schaefer (Ext. 16301)

Department of Corrections Funds Transfer

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**Funds Transferred** The Department of Corrections has notified the Legislative Fiscal Bureau that $1,800 will be transferred from the nine institutions into the Inmate Tort Claims Fund. The Fund is used to reimburse inmates for the damage or loss caused by the Department to inmates’ personal property valued up to $100. When the Fund has insufficient moneys to pay claims, the Department is required to transfer funds from the institutions’ operating budgets into the Inmate Tort Claims Fund.

STAFF CONTACT: Dwayne Ferguson (Ext. 16561) Christina Schaefer (Ext. 16301)

Iowa Communications Network (ICN) Video Classrooms



**Classrooms Added** The Iowa Communications Network (ICN) added ten interactive video classrooms during the last half of February at Alta High School in Alta, Central High School in De Witt, Turkey Valley High School in Jackson Junction, North Linn High School in Troy Mills, Lawton High School in Lawton, Bayard Public Library, Hawarden Public Library, Federal Courthouse in Sioux City, and two classrooms at Indian Hills Community College in Oskaloosa. This brings the total number of classrooms to 653. The total number of classrooms that will be included in the Network at the end of the Part III build out is estimated at over 700. This will include multiple classrooms at several authorized sites. The table below presents the current distribution of sites by type of authorized user.

**IOWA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK**

# Full-Motion Interactive Video Classrooms

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Area Education Agencies | 16 |
| Community Colleges | 96 |
| K-12 School Districts | 350 |
| Other Education | 4 |
| Libraries | 21 |
| Medical Facilities | 8 |
| Private Colleges | 17 |
| Regents Institutions | 25 |
| National Guard | 56 |
| State Agencies | 42 |
| Federal | 15 |
| Miscellaneous | 3 |
| Classrooms Total | 653 |

**Website** This information is updated weekly and is available on the Internet at <http://www.icn.state.ia.us/about/clickmap/clickmap.htm>**.** If you would like a copy of the full list of sites and their locations and do not have access to the Internet, you may contact the LFB and request a copy.

STAFF CONTACT: Douglas Wulf (Ext. 13250)

Highlights of President Clinton’s Budget for Education



**Federal Funds** President Clinton has released his FFY 2000 budget. The budget includes increased funding for several programs in Education. These include:

* ***Class Size Reduction*** - $1.4 billion to continue and expand the Program, which is an increase of $200 million from FFY 1999. Up to 15% of the funds may be used for professional development activities of current teachers. For FFY 2000, school districts would be required to match at 35% the amount of their allocation that exceeds the FFY 1999 allocation. However, high poverty districts would be exempt from the matching requirement*. Iowa’s allocation for FFY 1999 is $9.4 million. For FFY 2000, the allocation would be $11.0 million, an increase of $1.6 million, and would require a State match of $550,000.*



* ***School Construction*** – Federal tax credits would be provided to pay interest on $25 billion in bonds to build and renovate schools. Of that, $22 billion would be provided over two years ($11 billion per year) for “school modernization” bonds. Half of the funds would go to the 100-125 school districts with the largest number of poor children. The other half would be allocated to states based on the remaining number of low-income children in each state.
* ***Title 1*** – An increase of $320 million with $200 million of the total earmarked to help states identify and intervene in low-performing schools.
* ***Other Programs*** – The budget includes $400 million to help districts create or expand after-school programs.

**FFY 1999 Level *Programs funded at the FFY 1999 level include:*** Goals 2000, Eisenhower Professional Development State Grant Program, Magnet Schools, Vocational Education State Grants, and Perkins Loans.

**Program Reductions *Program reductions include:***

* Safe and Drug-free Schools – Funding was slightly reduced, and the President proposes that state education agencies distribute 30% of the funds as competitive grants to a limited number of local districts based on need and equity.
* Pell Grants – Reduced by $241 million (3.1%) due to the Program’s surplus, but the basic award would be increased by $125 to $3,250.

**Title VI Grant Program** The President’s budget also eliminates funding for the Title VI Grant Program (Innovative Education program Strategies State Grants).

STAFF CONTACT: Mary Shipman (Ext. 14617) Paige Piper/Bach (Ext. 17942)

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