

FISCAL UPDATE

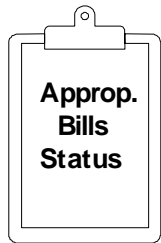
February 21, 2006

Legislative Services Agency

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STATUS OF APPROPRIATIONS BILLS



Appropriations Subcommittee Bills		
Appropriations Subcommittee	LSB/File#	Status
Administration and Regulation	LSB 5189H	Passed House Subcommittee on February 16.
Agriculture and Natural Resources	HSB 705	Passed House Subcommittee on February 16.
Economic Development	HSB 706	Passed House Subcommittee on February 16.
Education	HSB 707	Passed House Subcommittee on February 16.
Transportation	SF 2232	Passed Senate Appropriations on February 15.
Other Appropriations Bills		
Health Care Transformation Account Bill	SF 2051	Passed Senate Appropriations on January 18.
Senior Living Trust Fund Repayment Bill	HF 2002	Passed House on January 30.
Honey Creek Destination Park Bond Program Bill	SF 2056	Passed House Appropriations on February 13.
FY 2006 Veterans Supplemental Appropriations Bill	HF 2080	Final passage by Senate and House on January 18.
FY 2008 School Foundation Allowable Growth Rate Bill	HF 2095	Passed Senate Education Committee on February 8.
FFY 2007 Federal Block Grant Bill	HF 2238	Passed Senate Appropriations on February 15.

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**HOUSE ADMINISTRATION AND REGULATION
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE PASSES
APPROPRIATIONS BILL – LSB 5189H**

Subcommittee Meetings

The Administration and Regulation Appropriations Subcommittee met the week of February 13. On February 14 and 15, House members met to discuss a draft of the House Appropriations Bill and amendments.

House Bill



On February 16, the House Subcommittee members passed LSB 5189H (FY 2007 Administration and Regulation Appropriations Bill) that appropriates \$82.2 million from the General Fund and 1,877.6 FTE positions. This is a net decrease of \$327,000 and 201.4 FTE positions compared to estimated FY 2006.

Dept. of Admin. Services

The Bill provides an increase of \$72,000 for the Department of Administrative Services due to the Department distributing a portion of a balance that was carried forward into FY 2006 from a FY 2005 appropriation.

Ethics Board

The Bill provides an increase of \$10,000 for the Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board to cover increased lease costs, additional Board expenses, and maintenance for the electronic filing system.

Dept. of Commerce



The Bill provides a net increase of \$93,000 for the Department of Commerce for the following:

- An increase of \$163,000 for replacement of laptop computers to comply with Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) guidelines and replacement of a postage machine to meet new postal requirements.
- A decrease of 70,000 from the merger of the Professional Licensing Division with the Banking Division and the elimination of a Division Administrator.

Dept. of Human Rights

The Bill provides an increase of \$271,000 for the Department of Human Rights for support staff for a new Iowa Criminal Justice Information Systems Integration Initiative.

Inspections & Appeals

The Bill provides an increase of \$747,000 for the Department of Inspections and Appeals for pari-mutuel and riverboat regulation. All costs are reimbursed to the General Fund through billings of riverboat and racetrack casinos.

Dept. of Management

The Bill provides a net decrease of \$304,000 for the Department of Management for the following:

- A decrease of \$150,000 from the Institute for Tomorrow's Workforce.
- A decrease of \$154,000 from undistributed salary adjustment appropriated in FY 2006.
- A decrease of \$108,000 from Performance Audits due to unfilled positions.
- An increase of \$108,000 for Lean Process Improvement.

Dept. of Revenue

The Bill provides a net decrease of \$3.9 million for the Department of Revenue for the following:



- A decrease of \$4.2 million for Collection Services, which will operate as an enterprise.
- An increase of \$70,000 for rent for the Morgan Street office where tax records are kept.
- An increase of \$277,000 to fund a statewide Property Assessment Appeal Board established in HF 868 (Grow Iowa Values Fund Act) during the 2005 Legislative Session.

Secretary of State

The Bill provides a decrease of \$275,000 for the Secretary of State, as funding is not needed in the off year for Limited Liability Companies' (LLC) biennial reporting.

IPERS

The Bill provides an increase of \$5.9 million for the Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (IPERS) to continue a multi-year computer upgrade.

More Information

The NOBA (Notes on Bills and Amendments) for LSB 5189H will be available on the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) web site at:
<http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/>.

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Sam Leto (16764)

**HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE PASSES
APPROPRIATIONS BILL – HSB 705**

Subcommittee Meetings

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee met the week of February 13.

House Bill

On February 14, House members met to discuss a draft of the House Appropriations Bill.

Clear Lake

On February 15, David Knoll and David Collins from the Clear Lake area presented information on the Clear Lake dredging project. Upon completion of the presentation, the Joint Subcommittee adjourned.

House Passes Bill

On February 16, the House Subcommittee members passed HSB 705 (FY 2007 Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Bill) that appropriates \$36.9 million from the General Fund and 1,524.0 FTE positions. This is an increase of \$100,000 and 17.0 FTE positions compared to estimated FY 2006.

Agric. & Land Stewardship

The Bill provides an increase of \$100,000 for the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship for the following:

- An increase of \$50,000 for the Dairy Products Control Bureau to cover increased costs of milk inspections.
- An increase of \$50,000 for the Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners for expenditure reimbursement.

Dept. of Natural Resources



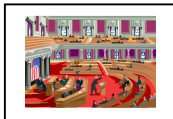
The Bill provides an increase of \$1.9 million and 11.0 FTE positions from appropriations in the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the following:

- \$1.0 million and 9.0 FTE positions for water-related activities.
- \$120,000 and 1.0 FTE position for the Water Trails/Water Safety Recreation Program.
- \$230,000 for the Missouri River Fisheries Project.
- 1.0 FTE position for an administrative assistant to assist with water, snowmobile, and all-terrain vehicle programs.
- \$375,000 for the increased cost of gasoline.
- Specifies the DNR will use \$120,000 to contract with a person or business that can provide training and assistance to persons interested in sports activities that involve shooting firearms.

Dept. of Economic Dev.

The Bill transfers \$150,000 from the Unassigned Revenue Account of the Underground Storage Tank Fund to the Department of Economic Development (DED) for 1.0 FTE position for an environmental advocate that will provide technical assistance and information for the installation of E85 tanks.

New Fund



The Bill creates a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Fund and makes the following appropriations:

- \$400,000 and 3.0 FTE positions to the DNR to process and issue stormwater and NPDES permits.
- \$100,000 and 2.0 FTE positions to the DED for environmental advocates that will provide technical assistance and information for persons applying for NPDES or stormwater permits. One position will work with livestock operations, and one will work with non-livestock operations.

More Information

The NOBA (Notes on Bills and Amendments) for HSB 705 will be available on the LSA web site at: <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/>.

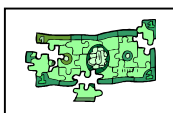
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**HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE PASSES APPROPRIATIONS BILL – HSB
706**

Subcommittee Meetings

The Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee met the week of February 13.

Bill Draft Review



On February 14, the LSA staff reviewed the House Appropriations Bill draft.

Director Richard Running and Deputy Director Jane Barto, Department of Workforce Development, provided an overview of the Unemployment Insurance Reserve Fund operations, use of the Fund, and how the Fund is invested. The Department did not provide documentation on federal restrictions on the use and investment of the Fund.

Treasurer of State

Stefanie Devin, Deputy Treasurer of State, provided an overview of the potential investment options for the Unemployment Insurance Reserve Fund. Ms. Devin recommended that the Fund remain invested in the Pooled Fund.

Bill Passage



On February 16, the House Subcommittee passed HSB 706 (FY 2007 Economic Development Appropriations Bill). The Bill appropriates a total of \$30.8 million from the General Fund and 406.1 FTE positions to the Department of Economic Development (DED), Iowa Workforce Development, the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB), and the Regents institutions economic development programs. This is an increase of \$365,000 in General Funds and 3.0 FTE positions compared to estimated FY 2006. The Bill also maintains the \$5.0 million support level from Other Funds. The changes include:

- An increase of \$250,000 for the DED to be used for the promotion of tourism.
- An increase of \$115,000 for the DED to restore administration funding that was reduced last year.
- The DED is instructed to continue to utilize \$115,000 from all available General Fund resources to support the World Food Prize. This is in addition to the \$285,000 direct appropriation for the Prize.
- The Department of Workforce Development would be allowed to use \$225,000, starting in FY 2007, to support a total of three new positions in the Workers' Compensation Division and the Voluntary Compliance Program. The Department used the funds in FY 2006 on a one-time start-up project.

More Information

The NOBA (Notes on Bills and Amendments) for HSB 706 will be available on the LSA web site at: <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/>.

STAFF CONTACT: Ron Robinson (Ext. 16256)

**HOUSE EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
PASSES APPROPRIATIONS BILL – HSB 707**

Education Bill

The House Education Appropriations Subcommittee passed HSB 707 (FY 2007 Education Appropriations Bill) on February 16. The Bill appropriates a total of \$948.4 million from the General Fund, an increase of \$17.2 million compared to estimated FY 2006.

College Student Aid Comm.



The Bill includes the following increases for the College Student Aid Commission:

- \$50,000 for the Osteopathic Forgivable Loan Program. The Bill requires the funds to be matched by Des Moines University.
- \$115,000 for the Teacher Shortage Forgivable Loan Program. The Bill also requires the Commission to find matching funds for this Program.
- \$2.0 million for the Tuition Grant Program. The Bill separates the appropriation into two line items, one for nonprofit schools and one for proprietary (for-profit) schools. This is an increase of \$1.8 million for nonprofit schools and \$200,000 for proprietary schools. This funding level represents a 4.0% increase in funding for both types of schools compared to FY 2006 funding levels. For FY 2006, there was one appropriation of \$49.7 million that was allocated \$44.7 million to nonprofit schools and \$5.0 million to proprietary schools.

- \$200,000 in a new appropriation for the State of Iowa Scholarship Program. The appropriation is to be matched with an allocation of \$200,000 from the Commission's Scholarship and Grant Reserve Fund, making total funds of \$400,000 available for this Program. The General Fund standing appropriation for this item was eliminated in FY 2006. In FY 2005 and prior years, the Program received a standing appropriation of \$465,000 each year.

Dept. of Cultural Affairs

The Bill includes a decrease of \$25,000 for the Department of Cultural Affairs for Nonprofit Music Grants to eliminate the appropriation. This was a new appropriation in FY 2006 that the Iowa Arts Council used to award \$12,500 each to the Greater Des Moines Music Coalition and Davenport's River Music Experience.

Dept. of Education



The Bill includes the following increases for the Department of Education:

- \$260,000 for Iowa Public Television for operation of digital transmitters.
- \$25,000 for nonpublic school textbooks.
- \$2.5 million for the Student Achievement and Teacher Quality Program to maintain the minimum teacher salaries.
- \$50,000 in a new appropriation for the Future Farmers of America (FFA) that requires a dollar-for-dollar match.
- \$6.0 million for general aid to community colleges.

Board of Regents

The Bill includes an increase of \$6.0 million for the Board of Regents for distribution to the institutions as outlined in the Transformation Plan.

More Information

The NOBA (Notes on Bills and Amendments) for HSB 707 will be available on the LSA web site at: <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/>.

STAFF CONTACT: Robin Madison (Ext. 15270) Mary Shipman (Ext. 14617)

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE PASSES FY 2007
TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS BILL – SF 2232**

Transportation Bill



The Senate Appropriations Committee passed SF 2232 (FY 2007 Transportation Appropriations Bill) on February 15. The Bill appropriates a total of \$305.3 million from the Primary Road and Road Use Tax Funds, an increase of \$3.0 million compared to estimated FY 2006. Significant changes are:

- An increase of \$4.1 million for costs associated with increases in fuel costs, rock salt, and equipment depreciation.
- An appropriation of \$1.0 million to develop a unified, customer-based International Registration Plan (IRP) and International Fuel Tax (IFT) Administration System.
- An appropriation of \$2.3 million for costs associated with replacing equipment.
- An increase of \$796,000 for county treasurer support for issuing vehicle titles, registrations, and drivers' licenses.
- An appropriation of \$2.5 million for construction of a new maintenance garage in Fairfield.



New Building	The increases in the Bill were offset by a one-time appropriation of \$9.4 million in FY 2006 for the construction of a new Motor Vehicle Division Building.
More Information	The NOBA (Notes on Bills and Amendments) for SF 2232 is available on the LSA web site at: http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/ .
STAFF CONTACT: Mary Beth Mellick (Ext. 18223)	

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE PASSES HONEY CREEK DESTINATION PARK BOND PROGRAM BILL – SF 2056

Destination Park



The House Appropriations Committee passed SF 2056 (Honey Creek Destination Park Bond Program Bill) on February 13. House File 875 (FY 2005 Infrastructure Appropriations Act) created the Honey Creek Premier Destination Park Authority and the Honey Creek Premier Destination Park Bond Fund. The Authority was authorized to issue up to \$28.0 million in bonds for the development and expansion of the Honey Creek Destination Park located near Lake Rathbun. The bonds will be repaid from the revenue generated by operations at the Destination Park.

Technical Change	The Bill makes a technical correction that allows the Authority to issue bonds that have net proceeds of \$28.0 million. The original legislation allowed the issuance of bonds with gross proceeds of \$28.0 million.
Fiscal Impact	The Department of Natural Resources estimates \$36.7 million will be issued to obtain the net proceeds of \$28.0 million.
More Information	The NOBA (Notes on Bills and Amendments) for SF 2056 is available on the LSA web site at: http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/index.jsp
STAFF CONTACT: Debra Kozel (Ext. 16767)	

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE PASSES FFY 2007 FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT BILL – HF 2238

Block Grant Bill



The Senate Appropriations Committee passed HF 2238 (FFY 2007 Federal Block Grant Bill) on February 15. The Bill authorizes the receipt and expenditure of federal funds totaling \$4.5 billion for FFY 2007. This is an increase of \$432.7 million compared to estimated FFY 2006. This includes:

- Federal Block Grant Funds totaling \$156.9 million for the Departments of Economic Development, Human Rights, Human Services, Justice, Public Health and the Governor's Office of Drug Policy.
- Federal categorical grants totaling \$4.3 billion for various Departments.

More Information

The NOBA (Notes on Bills and Amendments) for HF 2238 is available on the LSA web site at: <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/index.isp>.

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IOWA LEARNING TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION AWARDS GRANTS

Commission Meeting

The Iowa Learning Technology Commission met on February 10 to review grant applications and the recommendations of the Department of Education. The Commission was established in 2005 in HF 739 (Learning Technology Act), which included a General Fund appropriation of \$500,000 to be used to fund innovative learning technology efforts in local school districts.

Grant Awarded

The Commission awarded four grants to school districts by enrollment-size categories and two at-large grants that will require local match funding:



School District	Enrollment Category	Amount Awarded
Sidney	0-600	\$87,763
North Cedar	601-1,500	\$64,290
Pella	1,501-9,000	\$96,364
Davenport	9,000+	\$96,924
Clay Central/Everyly	At-Large	\$77,092
Sioux Central	At-Large	\$37,678
Total Awarded		\$460,111

Next Steps

The Department and Commission members are arranging for the grantees to share their plans with legislators in March or April. Funds will be disbursed to grantees before July 1, 2006. All of the projects must be completed by the end of the 2006-2007 school year, including an evaluation component.

More Information

Additional information is available from the LSA upon request.

STAFF CONTACT: Robin Madison (Ext. 15270)

MEDICAID FORECAST FOR FY 2006 AND FY 2007

Medicaid Estimates

Staff members from the Department of Management, the Department of Human Services (DHS), and the Fiscal Services Division of the LSA met on February 10 to discuss estimated Medical Assistance (Medicaid) expenditures for FY 2006 and FY 2007. The three staffs meet monthly to discuss estimated expenditures and to agree on a range for expenditures for the current fiscal year.

FY 2006

House File 825 (FY 2006 Health and Human Services Appropriations Act), as amended by HF 882 (FY 2006 Standing Appropriations Act) and HF 841 (IowaCare Medicaid Reform Act), included total State funding of \$704.4 million for Medicaid for FY 2006. It was discussed during the 2005 Legislative Session that this level of funding was not likely sufficient to fully

fund Medicaid and a shortfall was anticipated. The three staffs agreed to an estimated shortfall range of \$11.0 to \$30.0 million for FY 2006.



The forecasting methods used to determine the supplemental need are complex and take into account changes in cost and enrollment; therefore, the assumptions stated will not add up to the supplemental need. The assumptions represent the things that were not funded in the FY 2006 budget. A leveling trend in enrollment, as well as lower than expected costs in some areas, has offset some of the anticipated supplemental expenses. The shortfall estimate includes the following:

- An estimated net cost of \$12.9 million due to provisions included in HF 841.
- \$8.0 million to pay for an anticipated federal Medicare Part D Drug Benefit woodwork effect. This expense will occur in only the second half of FY 2006 because the benefit began in January 2006.
- \$4.0 million to fund Medicare buy-in for eight months of FY 2006. Premium rates for Medicare Parts A and B have both increased for FY 2006.
- Items where savings were assumed but the corresponding statutory changes were eliminated totaled \$3.1 million, including \$1.0 million for Pay and Chase, \$101,000 for a technical adjustment, and \$2.0 million for a reduction in HF 882.
- \$2.5 million to complete the funding for the nursing facility rebasing.
- \$3.2 million to replace federal Veterans Affairs funding with State Medicaid funds at the Iowa Veterans' Home.
- \$6.4 million for the FY 2005 supplemental not being fully incorporated into the FY 2006 budget.
- Funds to pay for a small amount of FY 2005 claims not processed before August 26, 2005, that will be paid from the FY 2006 appropriation.
- Funds to pay for a settlement with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) related to financial audits of the Adult Rehabilitation Option (ARO) service providers. The CMS report included findings against the State and providers of approximately \$6.2 million, which is required to be repaid to the federal government.



FY 2007

For FY 2007, the three staffs agreed to an estimated increase of \$55.0 to \$95.0 million compared to the FY 2006 appropriation. The increase for FY 2007 includes the following assumptions:

- An estimated \$13.5 million in additional costs related to enrollment increases.
- An estimated \$7.0 million to fund an estimated 1.0% medical inflation rate.
- \$11.0 to \$30.0 million to incorporate the estimated FY 2006 supplemental appropriation.
- \$1.0 million to annualize the increased cost of Medicare buy-in due to increased Medicare premiums.
- \$8.0 million to annualize the cost of the Medicare Part D woodwork effect.



- In FY 2007, the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) will decrease from 63.61% to 61.98%, resulting in an estimated \$25.0 million in additional costs to the State.

Other Issues

The President signed the federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 in early February 2006. It is estimated that the federal changes will not dramatically impact Iowa Medicaid; however, administrative rules must be adopted at the federal level before exact impacts can be estimated.

More Information

Additional information is available from the LSA upon request.

STAFF CONTACT: Kerri Johannsen (Ext. 14611)

OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE – INCREASE IN THE GENERAL FUND ALLOCATION

Increased Funding



The LSA received notice that pursuant to Section 475A.6, Code of Iowa, the Office of the Consumer Advocate received an additional \$129,000 from the General Fund. The increased funding was needed to provide expert testimony regarding the Duane Arnold Nuclear Center Reorganization. The Office of the Consumer Advocate will bill utility companies for the increase. Payments by the utility industry will be deposited into the General Fund.

More Information

Additional information is available from the LSA upon request.

STAFF CONTACT: Beth Lenstra (Ext. 16301)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

Subcommittee Meetings

The Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee met the week of February 13.

February 14



On February 14, Ted Boesen, Iowa-Nebraska Primary Care Association, and Mary Rose Corrigan, Tri-State Community Health Center, Dubuque, provided information on community health centers and the provider safety network. In addition, Matt Tapscott, Child Care Providers Together, provided information on child care issues.

February 15

On February 15, Shanell Wagler, Department of Management, provided a presentation on Empowerment. In addition, information was provided on enhanced services for girls by Mary Nelson, Department of Human Services (DHS); Deb Hanus, Toledo Juvenile Facility; and Tom Wilson and Sharon Miller, Family Resources; Davenport.

February 16

On February 16, Mary Nelson, DHS, and Christine Secrist, Mid-Iowa Family Therapy, Inc., presented on the Community Cares Program. Ms. Nelson also presented on the Family Support Subsidy and the Children-At-Home Program. In addition, the LSA staff provided a summary of the topics covered at the 2006 Subcommittee meetings.

More Information

Copies of agendas, minutes, and selected handouts distributed to Subcommittee members are available on the General Assembly web site at: <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/ga/committee.do?id=37>.

STAFF CONTACT: Lisa Burk (Ext. 17942) Kerri Johannsen (Ext. 14611)
Sue Lerdal (Ext. 17794)

JUSTICE SYSTEM APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**Subcommittee Meeting**

The Justice System Appropriations Subcommittee met on February 16. The Subcommittee reviewed LSB 5194H (FY 2007 Justice System Appropriations Bill) and LSB 5195H (FY 2007 Judicial Branch Appropriations Bill). A spreadsheet was distributed that showed the proposed distribution of appropriations to the Justice System and the Judicial Branch.

Decision Making

The Subcommittee plans to meet on February 21 to take action on the Bills.

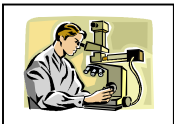
More Information

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STAFF CONTACT: Jennifer Acton (Ext. 17846) Beth Lenstra (Ext. 16301)

TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND CAPITALS APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS**Subcommittee Meetings**

The Transportation, Infrastructure, and Capitals Appropriations Subcommittee met the week of February 13.

Biosciences Alliance

On February 14, representatives from the Board of Regents and Biosciences Alliance of Iowa presented research identified in the Battelle Report. The goal of the initiative is to create 10 new bioscience business opportunities and attract 300 additional jobs to the State in FY 2007. The Governor is recommending \$10.0 million from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF) and \$10.0 million from the Endowment for Iowa's Health Account for the Battelle initiative.

Clear Lake Restoration

On February 15, representatives from the Clear Lake Area Chamber Alliance and the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship presented on the Clear Lake Enhancement and Restoration Project. The group is requesting \$9.0 million in State funds, which would be matched with \$4.0 million in local and private funds.

Regents

On February 15, representatives from the Regent's universities presented infrastructure requests for the following projects:

- Iowa State University - \$53.0 million for replacement of Gilman Hall (Chemistry Building).
- University of Iowa - \$19.6 million for construction of a College of Public Health facility.
- University of Northern Iowa - \$8.5 million to complete the Electrical Distribution System.

Great Places

On February 15, representatives from the communities selected through the Iowa Great Places Program presented infrastructure requests for Sioux City, Coon Rapids, and Clinton. The communities are requesting a total of \$3.0 million for FY 2007 to be divided equally among the three cities. The Governor is recommending \$1.0 million for FY 2007 for the Program. The Subcommittee also toured the Wallace and Historical Buildings.

More Information

Copies of agendas, minutes, and selected handouts distributed to Subcommittee members are available on the General Assembly web site at: <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/ga/committee.do?id=40>.

STAFF CONTACT: David Reynolds (Ext. 16934) Mary Beth Mellick (Ext. 18223)

GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee Meetings

The Government Oversight Committee met the week of February 13.

State Auditor Fees



On February 14, Warren Jenkins, Chief Deputy State Auditor, responded to questions regarding the budget for the State Auditor. The Committee discussed concerns about the fees charged to State agencies for audit work conducted by staff of the Office. Mr. Jenkins explained the process for preparing estimates of proposed fees for future audit work.

Lottery Update

Ed Stanek, Chief Operating Officer, Iowa Lottery, presented the Lottery's FY 2007 budget and responded to questions related to the budget and Touch Play operations, funding, and revenues.

State Fire Marshal

The Committee requested an update from the State Fire Marshal regarding inspections of the Regents Institutions and other public facilities. Jeff Quigle, Deputy Fire Marshal, provided a summary of inspection work done over the last three years. He also explained the status of corrective action plans to remedy the identified findings by the Office. The Committee asked questions regarding the review being done for the Capitol and made suggestions.

Tentative Schedule



The tentative schedule for the week of February 20 is as follows:

- Tuesday, February 21 - Department of Corrections.
- Wednesday, February 22 - Committee discussion.
- Thursday, February 23 - Committee wrap-up.

More Information

Copies of agendas, minutes, and selected handouts distributed to Subcommittee members are available on the General Assembly web site at: <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/ga/committee.do?id=41>.

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