

2018 Legislative Session Final Summary

Bill Number	Sponsor	Description and Status	IEC Registration
Bills signed by the Governor			
HF 2502	Appropriations Committee	Standing Appropriations bill. Requires the DNR to create and deliver a report on public lands to the legislature. For FY 2019, prohibits the Environmental Protection Commission from authorizing a contract or approving costs for the purchase of land under the nonpoint source set-aside in the state revolving fund. Transfers funds currently allocated to the Iowa Energy Center at the Iowa Economic Development Authority to the General Fund in order to pay for continuation of the solar investment tax credit. Specifies that the amount of the commercial tax valuation for wind property is 30%, not 20%. <i>Passed House and Senate and to Gov for signature.</i>	
HF 2440 (was HSB 645)	House Ag	Amends Senate File 512 (2018 water quality bill) to: provide priority for drinking water funds to cities with water sources on the impaired waters list, adds industries as eligible for funding through the Water Quality Financial Assistance Fund, requires IDALS and ISU to do outreach on in-field ag practices to improve water quality, strikes language from SF 512 that required drainage and levee districts to use edge-of-field practices. States that Rural Improvement Zones can be part of Watershed Management Authorities.	Undecided
SF 2414	Senate Appropriations	Appropriates \$9.6M for lake restoration (same as FY 2015-18) \$500,000 for FY 2019 from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF) to the DNR for water trails and dam mitigation. This is a partial restoration of \$1M that was eliminated from the program for FY 2018. Provides for flat funding for lake restoration, recreational trails, and water quality.	For
HF 2491	House Ag and Natural Resources Appropriations	Reduces funding for the Resources Enhancement and Protection Program from the \$12M funded in FY 2018 to \$10M with the \$2M cut going to State Parks. Allows DNR to use another \$1M from REAP for State Parks maintenance. Increases funding to IDALS by \$428,000 compared to FY 2018. Increases funding to DNR by \$285,000 compared by FY 2018. Moves funding for the water quantity program and Geological and Water Survey program from DNR to the University of Iowa, per changes codified in HF 2303 (see below).	Undecided
HF 631	Ways and Means Committee	Allows the DNR to increase fees on fishing and hunting licenses. This funding would go to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund to be used to fund wildlife programs and DNR law enforcement.	For

SF 2311 (was SSB 3093)	Commerce Committee	<p>Makes many changes to Iowa code regulating utilities, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Removes much IUB oversight of Municipal Utilities and Rural Electric Cooperatives (RECs). Exempts munis and RECs from being required to offer energy efficiency programs. 2. Makes multiple changes that would be devastating to energy efficiency programs in Iowa. Puts a cap of 2% of rate revenue on electric efficiency spending (reduction of 50-75%) and 1.5% on gas efficiency spending (reduction of 65-80%). Allows all customers to opt out of energy efficiency plans if the plans do not meet a cost-effectiveness test that takes into account few benefits and emphasizes costs, making it hard to meet. This could result in an opt-out for all customers and decimation of the programs. Allows municipal utilities to discriminate against customers with solar generation. 	Against
SF 2389	Ways and Means Committee	Allows the DNR to implement dynamic pricing at state parks. Requires DNR to submit an annual report about pricing and occupancy rates and establishes a legislative advisory board to review the report each year.	For
HF 2464 (was HF 2192 and HSB 539)/ SF 2202 (was SSB 3068)	DNR Bill	Increases maximum allowable fee in the land recycling program from \$7,000 to \$25,000 to allow the DNR to assist with more, larger projects.	Undecided
HF 2407 (was HF 2260)	Wills	Prohibition on the discharge of pesticides into lakes that are used as source water. Imposes a civil penalty of \$1,000 for a violation.	For
HF 2365 (was HSB 566)	Natural Resources Committees	Allows DNR to enter into contracts, eliminates the Mississippi River Partnership Council which has not met since 2011 and the Brushy Creek Recreation Trails Advisory Board which has been converted into a "friends" group.	Undecided
HF 2303 (was HSB 571)/ SF 2302 (was SSB 3091)	DNR bill	Makes several change to DNR statutes including moving State Geologist from DNR to the University of Iowa and increasing education requirements for the position.	Undecided

SF 2117	Appropriations Committee	Cut FY 2018 budget for remainder of fiscal year by \$33.3M. Main cuts were: \$11M cut to Board of Regents, \$5M from the DHS budget, and \$4M from the Justice System. DNR was cut by \$123,000 (0.9%), IDALS by \$189,000 (0.9%), and the Dept. of Public Health by \$663,000 (1.3%).	Undecided
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