



## Week 2 Recap

Things moved quickly this past week as the legislature jumped right into assigning bills, holding subcommittees, and generally getting on with the business of session. Though it was a three-day week, multiple seasoned legislators remarked on the efficiency of work at the Capitol.

Monday was Martin Luther King Jr. Day and the legislature was not in session. Many legislators participated in events related to the life and legacy of Dr. King. On Wednesday, veterans and their families attended Veterans Day on the Hill. Legislators and veterans discussed the priorities of the Veterans Commission.



## Energy Program Activity

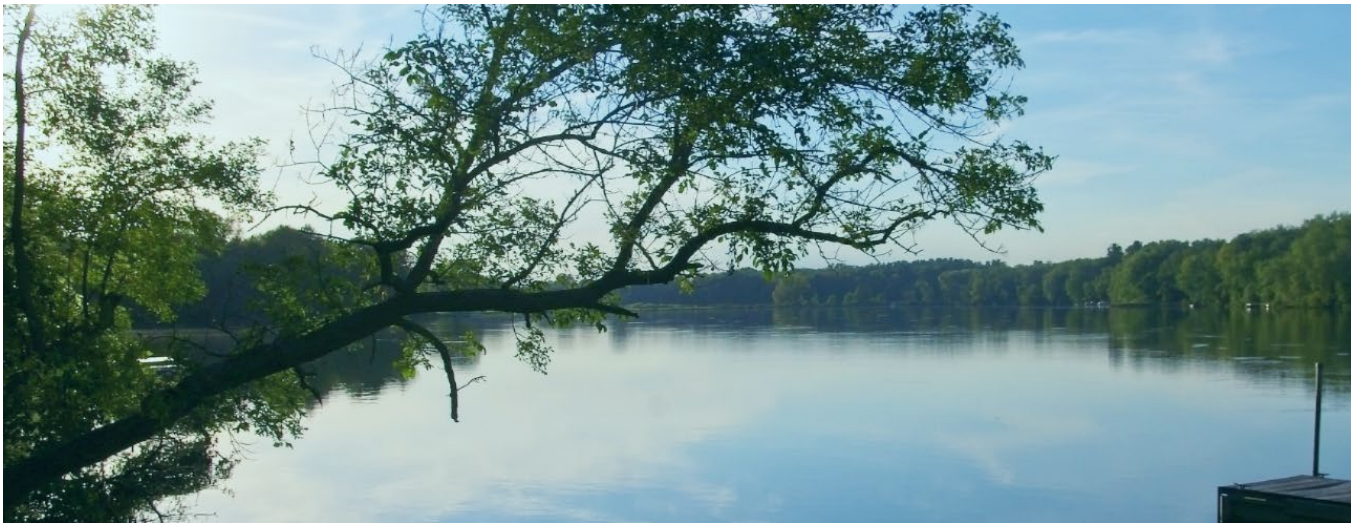
IEC is now [registered on or monitoring two energy bills](#) related to electric transmission lines and electric vehicle registration fees. Please see this [week's bill tracker](#) for more details.

Energy Efficiency Day on the Hill was a success during week two, with exhibitors sharing their stories with legislators along with comments from Lana Shope of the Iowa Community Action Association about the impacts of high energy prices on people with a low income, and Keith Denner, President of Professional Property Management, who has been a pioneer in efficient multi-family housing. We hope to see a bill from last year – [SF 549](#) which would require disclosure of energy costs before a lease is signed – move forward this year.

This Wednesday the energy team is excited to be a part of Solar Day on the Hill, highlighting solar's contributions to Iowa's economy and advocating for extension and expansion of Iowa's solar investment tax credit. We continue to work with MidAmerican toward a potential solution on net metering that will offer long-term certainty to solar customers and the industry, though we have yet to reach a final agreement.



*IEC Staff at Energy Efficiency Day on the Hill. Photo Credit: 1000 Friends of Iowa and Chris Maharry, Maharry Photography.*



## Water Program Activity

The Council is now [monitoring fifteen bills](#) on topics such as hunting licenses, stream mitigation, and groundwater hazard statements. For more details please see [this week's bill tracker](#).

Several land and water related pieces came out this week, most notably a few hunting bills, a hemp acreage bill, and stream mitigation bill which passed out of subcommittee Thursday morning. The Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust fund continues to be a priority issue for IEC, and discussions on IWILL have continued throughout the week. IEC has been evaluating the Governor's proposal to fund the trust. IEC is hopeful about the possibilities but there remains a lot of uncertainty about the details of the proposal, as well as how the sales tax increase fits within the Governor's overall budget allocations.

Because of our hard work during session to connect with decision-makers, IEC is well positioned to receive the most current information about funding proposals and allocations and to represent our members' interests during these policy discussions. IEC is also continuing to work with members, partners, and supporters to gain information and perspective on the potential outcomes of various funding scenarios. We will continue to investigate and analyze critical information throughout this session.

## Stay Connected This Session:

- Visit and bookmark IEC's [2020 Legislative Portal](#)
- Review the [Energy Program Legislative Priorities](#) and [Water Program Legislative Priorities](#)
- Make sure you're [signed up to receive Action Alerts](#) from IEC during session. We send alerts as needed about legislation that needs your voice or action
- Sign up to attend IEC's free [Environmental Lobby Day](#) on March 11

## Dates of Interest:

- February 21: First funnel deadline (6th week)
- March 20: Second funnel deadline (10th week)
- April 21: 100th calendar day of the session; legislators' per diem expires

## Legislative Events:

- January 27: [100% Iowa Clean Energy Caucus](#)
- January 29: [ISETA Solar Day](#)
- March 11: [Environmental Lobby Day](#)



**Iowa  
Environmental  
Council**



505 Fifth Ave, Suite 850  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309  
515-244-1194 |  
[iecmail@iaenvironment.org](mailto:iecmail@iaenvironment.org)

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