

Legislative Update

Issue No. 23-7, 2/17/2023



House members begin Thursday morning with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. (Legislative website screenshot)

IPAA Legislative Reception Upcoming

Make plans to attend the 2023 IPAA Legislative Reception the evening of March 14 at offices of Bolton and Menk in Des Moines.

The event will begin at 5:00 pm and conclude at 7:00 pm.

Please send a short email to the Representatives and Senators in your area and invite them to the event.

Here are links to the members of the House and Senate (and their email addresses):

House of Representatives:

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators/house>

Senate:

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators/senate>

Bolton and Menk is located at 430 E. Grand Avenue.

We look forward to seeing you, and the lawmakers from your area that you invited, at this annual event.

Bills of Interest

(HF - House File, HSB - House Study Bill, SF - Senate File, SSB - Senate Study Bill)
(F - For, A - Against, U - Undecided/monitoring)

SF 203 (formerly SSB 1072) - Ransomware (F) - The bill defines “ransomware,” and provides that a person shall not use ransomware with the intent to cause the malfunction or interruption of the operation of, or alter, damage, or destroy, all or any part of a computer, computer network, computer control language, computer software, computer system, computer service, or computer data.

The bill also provides that a person who has suffered a specific and direct injury because of a violation of the bill may bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction, and the court may award actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, and court costs. A conviction for an offense under the bill is not a prerequisite for the filing of a civil action.

On Senate debate calendar

SF 144 (formerly SSB 1016) - Laser Pointing At Aircraft (F) - This bill relates to an assault involving a laser pointed toward an aircraft. Specifically, the bill provides that it is an assault for a person to intentionally point a laser emitting a visible light beam toward an aircraft. The bill defines “aircraft” as any contrivance intended for and capable of transporting persons through the airspace. Penalties for assault range from a simple misdemeanor to a class “C” felony.

On Senate debate calendar

SSB 1085 - City and County Engine Energy Rules Preemption (U) - This bill prohibits a county or city from adopting an ordinance, motion, resolution, or amendment that limits consumer access to an energy source to power an engine or that results in the de facto prohibition of the sale or production of an energy source or the related infrastructure necessary to provide consumer access to a specific energy source within the jurisdiction of the county or city. The bill specifically includes “aviation fuel” in the list of energy sources enumerated in the bill.

Approved by subcommittee

SSB 1077 - Commercial Solar Installations (U) - The bill prohibits a commercially owned solar panel field from installation on agricultural land unless the solar panel field is at least 150 feet from the nearest adjacent landowner and 1,200 feet from the nearest residence or livestock facility.

Approved by subcommittee with an amendment

HF 143 (formerly HSB 13) - Ransomware (F) - The bill defines “ransomware,” and provides that a person shall not use ransomware with the intent to cause the malfunction or interruption of the operation of, or alter, damage, or destroy, all or any part of a computer, computer network, computer control language, computer software, computer system, computer service, or computer data.

The bill also provides that a person who has suffered a specific and direct injury because of a violation of the bill may bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction, and the court may award actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, and court costs. A conviction for an offense under the bill is not a prerequisite for the filing of a civil action.

Approved by the House 97 to 1

HSB 53 - Laser Pointing At Aircraft (F) - This bill relates to an assault involving a laser pointed toward an aircraft. Specifically, the bill provides that it is an assault for a person to intentionally point a laser emitting a visible light beam toward an aircraft. The bill defines "aircraft" as any contrivance intended for and capable of transporting persons through the airspace. Penalties for assault range from a simple misdemeanor to a class "C" felony.

Subcommittee: Dieken, Fry, Scheetz

HSB 16 - Essential Purpose For Cybersecurity (U) - This bill amends the definitions of "essential county purpose" and "essential corporate purpose" to include the acquisition, development, and improvement of information systems to protect against a cybersecurity event. The bill defines "cybersecurity event" as an event resulting in unauthorized access to, or the disruption or misuse of, an information system or of nonpublic information stored on an information system, as defined in the bill.

Subcommittee: Latham, Graber and Isenhardt