



REPRESENTATIVE CINDY GOLDING
IOWA HOUSE DISTRICT 83

UNDER THE GOLDEN DOME:

This Week at the Capitol:

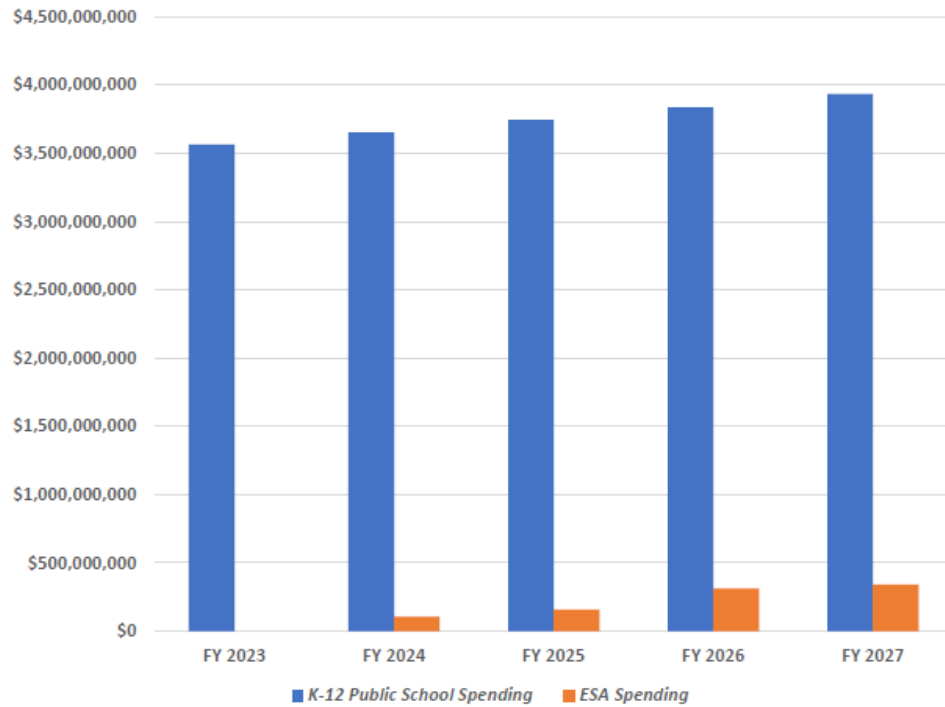
HSB 1: Providing Choice to Parents While Keeping Public Schools Strong

- This week, the Iowa House held a public hearing on the Governor's ESA Bill, and passed the bill out of subcommittee and committee.
- Under this proposal the state will contribute \$7,598 to an educational savings account for students attending private schools.
- Her bill this session has some key differences from the proposal she introduced last session.
 - This bill changes the way we count students and allocate money. Students who leave public school to attend private school with an ESA will still be counted in the public school's total. \$1,205 per student attending private school in the district would be allocated to the public school.
 - Also new in this year's proposal is increased flexibility for how school districts can spend their money. Right now, the State earmarks school districts' budgets for specific programs and some of those dollars go unspent. The Governor's proposal will allow school districts to use these unspent funds to increase teachers' salaries.

The Budget Impact of HSB 1

- I've heard some Iowans cite concerns about the cost of HSB 1. House Republicans have a reputation for being very cautious when it comes to the state budget. This has not changed.
- When fully implemented in FY 29, the projected cost of this program is \$341 million. In the same year, the state is projected to spend \$3.9 BILLION on public education.
- Given current projections, in that same year the state will have a \$3.1 BILLION ending balance and \$3.7 BILLION in the Taxpayer Relief Fund.
- Ultimately, \$341 million amounts to just 4% of the state's annual budget. This program is not an existential threat to public education. Iowa can afford HSB 1.

For additional context, check out this graph.



	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
K-12 Public School Spending	\$3,563,567,415	\$3,651,459,578	\$3,742,746,067	\$3,836,317,719	\$3,932,222,587
ESA Spending	\$0	\$106,886,298	\$156,245,940	\$313,876,119	\$341,128,162

State Government

House Republicans Strengthen Election Integrity Laws

As the 90th General Assembly begins and the legislative process starts up it is important to look at where Iowa stands on election integrity. In the 89th General Assembly, the House enacted several key election integrity laws. Important measures to build upon Iowa’s already safe elections to limit and secure ballot drop boxes, enforce routine voter registration maintenance, require signature verification for absentee ballots, and to prevent absentee ballot harvesting.

Veterans Affairs

Condition of the Iowa National Guard

Last week, Major General Benjamin Corell, Adjutant General of the Iowa National Guard, gave the Condition of the Iowa Guard to the Legislature.

Throughout the speech, General Corell spoke of the story of an Iowa National Guard member. A young man who joins the Guard to support his young family while working 60-hour weeks at this fulltime job, is a volunteer EMT, and attends college part time. This is the story of the Adjutant General himself, and the story of many of the great men and women serving in the Iowa National Guard.

“Like others, our Soldier in this story today decided that the Guard was his calling in life. It not only gave him fulfillment and direction, but also stability for his family. It provided an education, leadership opportunities, world experiences, comradery, and a sense of belonging. All while being a citizen of Iowa, living and working in an Iowa community.”

The Iowa National Guard has over 9,000 men and women serving in full-time and part-time positions.

We thank all of Iowa’s Soldiers and Airman for their service!



Veterans Day On The Hill and in Veterans Affairs committee.



Iowa Bicycle Coalition visits the Capitol on Tuesday.



Americans for Prosperity, Linn County constituents, visited the Capitol supporting “Students First Act”



Linn County Farm Bureau forum from Monday.