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# Under the Golden Dome Week #8 - 2024

Hi Friends,

The buzz around the Capitol increases by the day as the session progresses. We are in full swing as we move our priority legislation through the House and send it to the Senate. The topics we discuss range from nursing homes to electric power generation, department reporting requirements to criminal sentencing - everything you imagine that has a LAW was first debated and voted on in the House before it became a law.

I have found the challenge is to read and understand the legislation before we vote on it. My background in research drives me to know as much as I can about every issue - but that's a monumental task.

#### This is where you come in...write, call, or come to the Capitol.

A government "of the people, by the people, and for the people" only works when the people are involved!

If you have a particular issue that interests you or affects your business or community, please contact me. Be sure to include your address and phone number. If I don't have time to write, I'll try to call.

If you share a concern, it may be possible to add an amendment to modify or eliminate the negative impact. Many times a constituent will contact me about a negative consequence of a bill when it's too late to do anything about it.

The House passed more than 60 bills this week - over half passed unanimously.

#### HF 2183: Expanding Cancer Coverage for Firefighters and First Responders

In the course of their jobs, these men and women are exposed to toxic environments, causing many more types of cancer than are currently covered. This bill expands the definition of cancer for the Fire and Police Retirement System and the Special Services Members of IPERS.

### HF 2558: Refocusing Our Regent Universities -

- \*Creates a Work+ program for community colleges and Regent institutions.
- \*Codifies the Board of Regents November recommendations regarding DEI.
- \*Caps annual tuition and mandatory fee increases at 3% for Iowa residents.

#### HF 2544 - K-12 History and Civics requirements

All Iowa public, charter, and private schools. K-12 education will include a fundamental understanding of US/World History, democracy vs Constitutional Republic, our rights and freedoms, and the importance of civic engagement.

It is amazing to me that so many Representatives across the isle voted against educating our children about our country and the responsibility of citizenship.

#### HF 2545 - Comprehensive review of education requirements

Directs the Department of Education to conduct a comprehensive review of K-12 core curriculum and graduation requirement. The DE will take input from educators, teachers, and legislators to ensure the education standards.

As you know, I share your frustration with the decline in K-12 education in Iowa over the past 30 years. This bill gives all stake holders the opportunity to help restore Iowa to its rightful place as a leader in educating our children.

#### **HF 2586**: Improving School Safety

Currently, Iowa Code 724.4B allows schools to authorize their staff to carry a firearm on school property.

- \*Creates a new professional permit and sets an extensive standard of training that school employees **must** complete.
- \*Participation is completely voluntary for any school district.

#### HF 2483/SF 2483: Foreign Farmland Ownership

- \*Strengthens Iowa's already comprehensive laws protecting our farmland from foreign entities.
- \*Amends registration requirements for nonresident owners of agricultural land to include birthplace, nationality, the purpose of the business, information of the daily supervisor of the land, and the information of the owner's company and parent companies.
- \*Increases the financial penalty for failing to register or falsifying information from \$2,000 to 25% of the land's assessed value.

#### HF 2454: Religious Freedom Restoration Act - waiting for the Governor's signature!

Prohibits state, county, or city action from substantially burdening a person's exercise of religion unless there is a compelling government interest. RFRA is already law at the federal

## A Founding Father's Quote for today

"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigues of supporting it."

Thomas Paine, The Crisis, 1777

#### How will you choose to get involved?

It is an honor to serve as your Representative. Please stay in touch!

Go to <u>CindyGolding.com</u> or Email me at <u>cindy.golding@legis.iowa.gov</u> or Call me at 319-360-1028 Have a wonderful week!

Cindy



Kirkwood Community College at the Capitol. Vet tech students demonstrated equipment, including this ultra sound.



Students from the Deaf and Blind School lead the Pledge of Allegiance for the House of Representatives.



Linn County Union members visiting the Capitol sharing their legislative "wish list."



Bob Mitchel, Dee Mease, and Sheryl Jahnel of Linn County stopped by to discuss landlord issues.



Alicia Scott, Nancy Brady, Chris Collins, and Chris Jasper, at the Capitol to discuss the 911 commission & funding.



Faithful friends Kathy Stockdale & Kim Junker fighting the CO2 pipeline. They show up every Tuesday.



John Thompson tried out the Speaker's Chair when he filed his papers to run for House District 80.



It's OFFICIAL! Thank you to all those who signed my petition. I have been honored to represent you and look forward to continuing.



AMERICAN HISTORY, CIVICS & WESTERN CIV

MUST TEACH ABOUT GEORGE WASHINGTON, THOMAS JEFFERSON, ANDREW JACKSON AND MANY OTHER GREAT AMERICANS

REQUIRES A UNIT OF WESTERN CIV IN MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENTS MUST READ THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT, COMMON SENSE, NORTHWEST ORDINANCE, AND MANY OTHER IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS TO OUR COUNTRY

ENSURES ATUDENTS GET THE FULL PICTURE OF AMERICA, OUR FAULTS, OUR EXCEPTIONALISM, AND OUR HERITAGE

Here is a summary of HF 2544, the bill we passed for K- 12 American history, civics, and Western civilization.

The House had a lively debate over the necessity of requiring these topics. If you are interested in hearing actual House debate, click on the link <u>here</u>. be warned - it was 2+ hours.

Our mailing address is: PO Box 191, Palo, IA 52324

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