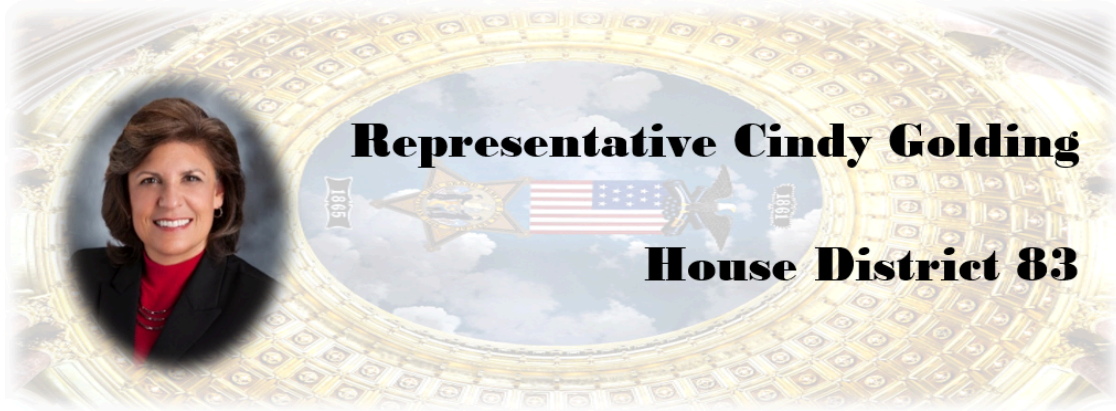


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Under the Golden Dome Week #9 - 2024

Hi Friends,

It's Daylight Savings time again and I hope you are over the effects of the time change. Every time we change the clocks a question rises - Why do we subject ourselves to this?

For centuries people have created systems to adjust to the changing seasons.

While Benjamin Franklin is often credited with the idea, it was actually implemented in Europe long before it came to the US. The concept has an on-again, off-again history, beginning in 1918 during World War 1, then again in World War II, and finally "permanent" in 1966.

There are strong views on both sides of the issue and the topic regularly comes before the legislature to "fix." Last year, the Iowa House State Government Committee actually had a bill (HF498) to make CDT permanent. I was quite surprised by the debate about which was healthier - Standard time or Daylight Savings time. Because of the controversy, it didn't make it to the floor last year or this year.

Some Highlights of Iowa House Week #9

Mental Health Priorities and Child Protection Measures

We have all heard the call for increased focus on mental health issues. The House has responded by advancing several bills to help address mental health care in Iowa. These bills expand access to mental health care, increase workforce, increase Medicaid rates, create

HF 2402 - Children's Mental Health – provides an enhanced rate for psychiatric medical institutions that care for children with specialized needs.

Now assigned to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

HF 2397 - Access Center Transportation – requires authorized payments to ambulances transporting mental health patients in crisis to an access center at a similar amount to when transporting to an ER.

Now assigned to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

HF 2523 - Social Media for Minors – requires parental consent for minors to access social media. There are many studies that show increased depression in youth using social media.

Now waiting assignment to a Senate Committee.

Addressing AI (Artificial Intelligence) Pornography -

We needed updates to the Iowa Code to protect Iowans, especially children. With these bills, we can ensure that there is no loophole in the law that would allow someone who commits this disturbing offense to avoid proper punishment.

HF 2240 - expands the definition of harassment to include using fake or altered images of another in a sexual manner without their consent. *Now waiting a vote in the Senate.*

HF 2241 / SF 2243- addresses AI-generated porn related to minors. This bill makes it a felony to create or possess an AI-generated pornographic content of a minor.

Now waiting assignment in the Senate

HF 2610 / SF 2380 - Election Integrity and Voter Protection (my particular passion)

- Creates an affidavit envelope for absentee voters to affix their signature and verification number. This will ensure Voter ID will be required, even if you vote absentee.
- Removes the use of ballot drop boxes, which have become unnecessary with the COVID-19 pandemic behind us.
- Strengthens the Safe at Home program to protect the confidentiality of voters who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, stalking or assault.
- Bans ranked choice voting in Iowa.
- Requires Absentee ballots to be received by close of business the Monday before Election Day. If the Auditor has not received your absentee ballot by Monday, you can then vote on election day to be sure your vote is counted.

Now awaiting Senate action.

Please notice - all the action taken by the House must be voted through the Senate. If any of these are a passion for you, please contact your Senator.

A Founding Father's Quote for today

for withdrawing from a friend”.

Thomas Jefferson

How will you choose to get involved?

I am running once again so that I may continue as a voice for rural and small town Iowa. Many of the issues that come before the House need the perspective that differs from our larger neighbors. I Provide that perspective ... and I always listen, even when we don't agree, I respect your opinion.

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

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

Cindy



Visiting with young Republican women in the House.



Tom Robinson came to visit when Cattlemen were at the Capitol.



One of our Super Heroes!! Kent Larsen came to lighten spirits from the long days in the House.



Mayor Tiffany O'Donnell and Barb Solberg visit about economic development opportunities.



Mayor Tom Wieseler of Mt. Vernon visited about issues affecting our small towns.



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