

November 30, 2023

To: Legislative Services Agency

Re: Iowa Sobriety and Drug Monitoring Program

This report is submitted in accordance with Iowa Code section 901D.10(1). The Department of Public Safety's Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau (GTSB), in consultation with the judicial branch's treatment court coordinator, reports the Iowa Sobriety and Drug Monitoring Program has not been used since its inception and there exists no data supporting its effectiveness. As a result, the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau cannot support the continuation of the program.

In 2017, the Iowa legislature passed SF 444 which directed the Department of Public Safety to establish a statewide sobriety and drug monitoring program to be used by participating jurisdictions and available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Testing would occur at a County Sheriff's Office within a participating county or at an established alternative testing location.

Participants would be required to test for the presence of alcohol or drugs twice a day for up to ninety (90) days if they had committed an eligible offense in the participating county.

Participants would take part in the program if ordered to do so by a court as a condition of probation, as a condition of receiving a temporary restricted license (TRL) if the individual committed an eligible offense in a participating county, or as a condition of reinstating their license if they committed a repeat offense.

The program did not contain a substance use treatment component.

The statute also provided that a court could excuse participation in the program by court order, including due to hardship or geographic impracticality.

Woodbury County was selected as a participating jurisdiction due to bordering South Dakota who administers a similar program.

Since its inception in Woodbury County, there have been no program participants. No other jurisdictions were willing to take part in the program and no data exists suggesting it has been an effective tool to reduce recidivism or aid in the rehabilitative process.