

PROOF

STATE OF IOWA

House Journal

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2004

Printed daily by the State of Iowa during the sessions of the General Assembly.
An official corrected copy is available for reference in the office of the Chief Clerk.
(The official bound copy will be available after a reasonable time upon adjournment.)

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

Second Calendar Day - Second Session Day

Hall of the House of Representatives
Des Moines, Iowa, Tuesday, January 13, 2004

The House met pursuant to adjournment at 8:46 a.m., Speaker Rants in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Reverend Doug Raymond, Sr. Minister of the Rising Sun Church of Christ, Des Moines. He was the guest of Representative Rod Roberts of Carroll.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Speaker Rants.

The Journal of Monday, January 12, 2004 was approved.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

[House File 2011](#), by Paulsen, a bill for an act relating to the use of shared center traffic lanes and making a penalty applicable.

Read first time and referred to committee on **transportation**.

[House File 2012](#), by Osterhaus, a bill for an act relating to review of certain juvenile delinquency cases by a foster care review board.

Read first time and referred to committee on **human resources**.

[House File 2013](#), by Heddens, Mertz, Osterhaus, Frevert, Lensing, Kuhn, Connors, Berry, Wendt, Whitead, Foege, Wise, Petersen, Davitt, Shoultz, Miller, D. Olson, Smith, Ford, Thomas, Mascher, and Greimann, a bill for an act relating to regulation of electric personal assistive mobility devices.

Read first time and referred to committee on **transportation**.

[House File 2014](#), by Paulsen, a bill for an act establishing a child endangerment offense for permitting the presence of a child or minor

at a location where a controlled substance manufacturing or possession violation occurs and providing a penalty.

Read first time and referred to committee on **judiciary**.

House File 2015, by Connors, Fallon, and Reasoner, a bill for an act relating to motor vehicle registration fees for multipurpose vehicles and providing an effective date.

Read first time and referred to committee on **transportation**.

House File 2016, by Wise, a bill for an act relating to increasing the personal needs allowance under the medical assistance program for residents of health care facilities.

Read first time and referred to committee on **human resources**.

The House stood at ease at 8:53 a.m., until the fall of the gavel.

The House resumed session at 9:29 a.m., Speaker Rants in the chair.

The House stood at ease at 9:30 a.m., until the fall of the gavel.

The House resumed session at 9:50 a.m., Speaker Rants in the chair.

COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE SENATE

Lalk of Fayette moved that a committee of three be appointed to notify the Senate that the House was ready to receive it in joint convention.

The motion prevailed and the Speaker appointed as such committee Lalk of Fayette, Lukan of Dubuque and Whitaker of Van Buren.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE SENATE

Lalk of Fayette, Chair of the committee appointed to notify the Senate that the House was ready to receive it in joint convention reported that the committee had performed its duty.

The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of the President of the Senate, the Secretary of the Senate and the honorable body of the Senate.

The President was escorted to the Speaker's station, the Secretary to the Chief Clerk's desk and the members of the Senate were seated in the House Chamber.

JOINT CONVENTION

In accordance with law and [House Concurrent Resolution 101](#), duly adopted, the joint convention was called to order at 9:55 a.m., President Kramer presiding.

Senator Iverson of Wright moved that the roll call be dispensed with and that the President of the joint convention be authorized to declare a quorum present.

The motion prevailed.

President Kramer announced a quorum present and the joint convention duly organized.

Senator Iverson of Wright moved that a committee of six, consisting of three members from the Senate and three members from the House of Representatives, be appointed to notify Governor Thomas J. Vilsack that the joint convention was ready to receive him.

The motion prevailed and the President appointed as such committee Senators Lamberti of Polk, Boettger of Shelby and Kibbie of Palo Alto, on the part of the Senate, and Representatives Klemme of Plymouth, Jacobs of Polk and Shomshor of Pottawattamie, on the part of the House.

Secretary of State Chester J. Culver; Treasurer of State, Michael Fitzgerald; Secretary of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Patty Judge; State Auditor, David Vaudt and Attorney General, Tom Miller were escorted into the House chamber.

The Supreme Court Justice, the Justices of the Supreme Court, the Chief Judge and Judges of the Appellate Court were escorted into the House chamber.

Lieutenant Governor Sally Pederson was escorted into the House chamber.

Mrs. Christie Vilsack, wife of the Governor, and their sons, Jess and Doug, were escorted into the House chamber.

The committee waited upon Governor Thomas J. Vilsack and escorted him to the Speaker's station.

President Kramer presented Governor Thomas J. Vilsack who delivered the following condition of the state message:

Thank you Madame President, and perhaps I should say Your Excellency, which is the appropriate title for a newly appointed and confirmed Ambassador. Senator Kramer, all of Iowa takes great pride in your appointment and confirmation and we wish you God's speed in your new endeavor. Thank you Mr. Speaker and members of the General Assembly for your kind invitation to share my thoughts about the condition of our great state. I should, also, express appreciation for the sacrifice each of you makes, spending time away from family and community in service to the people of Iowa. Thank you, as well, to the Chief Justice and members of our state appellate courts for your attendance here today and your service everyday. Finally, let me acknowledge the state-wide elected officials, specifically the Lieutenant Governor, Sally J. Pederson, and my first and only lady, Iowa's First Lady, Christie Vilsack accompanied by our sons, Jess and Doug, for the effective work you all do to make Iowa a great place to live, to work, and to raise a family.

My fellow Iowans, today across our state, our nation and the world, Iowans raised with a deep sense of responsibility, trained to put service above self, and unafraid to sacrifice to secure a greater good -live and lead lives of service - educating, healing, protecting and defending - daily helping all of us in ways we may not know or fully appreciate.

The effort of these unsung heroes should inspire and motivate us to follow their example by making a difference with the opportunities we have been blessed to receive.

A hero who inspires me is B.J. Jackson - specialist B.J. Jackson, proud member of the Iowa National Guard. At the call of his country, B.J. left his wife, Abby and his daughter and stepdaughter to fight tyranny and terrorism in Iraq. Shortly, after he arrived in the country, B.J. sustained serious and disabling injuries while on patrol. B.J. lost both of his legs below the thigh and suffered third-degree burns to his face and hands. After spending time in treatment and therapy, B.J. returned home and received his Purple Heart. As the medal was pinned to his chest, B.J. painfully stood at attention. No one, including his commanding officer, would have objected if B.J. had chosen to sit - but he stood.

I experienced the honor of meeting this brave Iowan. I asked this soft-spoken, humble soldier why he stood. He explained simply but profoundly, **“out of respect for all the men and women who serve and sacrifice.”**

B.J. joins many other Iowans, including those recently injured from mortar attacks, doing their duty for freedom and liberty. Some, like B.J., return but will never be the same. Some will never return. With their ultimate sacrifice the names of: Jeffrey Bohr, Michael Deutsch, Paul Fisher, Kurt Frosheiser, David Kirchoff, Brad Korthaus, Kenneth Nalley, Aaron Sissel, and Bruce Smith, all Iowans recently killed in the service of our country, who will forever be on the honor roll of heroes who spent their lives making a difference, in a cause much larger than themselves.

Today, in this magnificent State Capitol, let us follow the lead of B.J. Jackson by standing out of respect for all those who serve and express our full appreciation for their sacrifice.

In the face of such supreme and extraordinary sacrifice, a reciprocal duty and responsibility arises for each of us. We, too, are called to a life of service and sacrifice.

Although, to a degree, much less severe our challenge in Iowa mirrors the challenge our nation assumed in Iraq and Afghanistan. There, schools, libraries and hospitals must be opened – here our schools and libraries must be constantly improved and health care made more affordable and accessible. There, local security forces must be formed – here; police officers and firefighters must be better supported. There, an economy must be built to create a quality of life – here an economy must be transformed to support a quality of life.

There and here resources are needed to make any and all of it happen. Despite large deficits, congress and the administration recognized the importance of the work to be done in Iraq and Afghanistan, and found the resources to make sure the job gets done. American financial assistance acts as a bridge between the Iraq and Afghanistan of now and the self-supporting and free Iraq and Afghanistan of tomorrow.

In Iowa we face a similar choice. A sluggish economy, a jobless recovery, and zealous tax reductions when times were better, helped to create a significant gap between available resources and investments needed to support our values and meet our needs in education, health care, and public safety and security – the foundation of a transformed Iowa. We also need a financial bridge that will enable us to strengthen that foundation and maintain the momentum of recent transformation efforts.

Recently, the Lieutenant Governor and I conducted a series of public hearings across the state to listen to Iowans express their concerns and their hopes about the budget and the priorities it would establish for our collective future. From Dubuque to Sioux City, the message from the people was clear and consistent – we must maintain Iowa’s excellence in education, ensure access to quality health care, and protect essential local services, and we must hold the line on local property taxes.

In communities across this great state, teachers, administrators, school board members, business leaders and, most importantly, parents, urged us to not risk Iowa’s national standing as a K-12 educational leader and recent advances in student achievement by trying only to cut our way out of budget difficulties.

People who were born and raised here and people who moved to Iowa to take advantage of our quality education system warned us that our failure to adequately fund our schools will lead to more teacher and staff layoffs, large class sizes, and less education opportunities for our children.

Deb Henry, a 3rd grade teacher from Ankeny, brought the threat into clear focus when she catalogued the meager supplies she would receive for her 176 students next semester: One box of number two pencils, 12 pencils to a box; 10 boxes of crayons, 16 crayons to a box; three packets of construction paper, 50 sheets to a packet and five glue sticks.

We understood better the limitations on learning when Desira Johnson, a parent at the Ankeny hearing held up this 1984 textbook used today to teach her child and her classmates about the world around them. Our children will experience difficulties understanding our complex world if they must continue to rely on textbooks that teach of a place which no longer exists – the Soviet Union.

With us today is a young lady, Erin Smalley, she is from Johnston. Erin wrote an essay entitled "A Passion For Education". I want to share a portion of that essay with you today because it will underscore the importance of maintaining educational excellence. Erin wrote about William Butler Yeates, an Irish poet, who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1923, who once said "Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." The first part of Yates quote states education is not the filling of a pail. I believe it means this; education is not just putting information and knowledge into someone's mind. You can't dump fact after fact after fact into someone because it will just go in one ear and out the other. Putting a lot of information into someone's head is just like filling a pail with a lot of water. It will probably just sit there, but it won't sink in. That is why education means something more. The rest of the quote says; "but the lighting of a fire." I believe this makes education all about enlightening students and making them wonder. To light their fires to make them want to learn more, to build a passion for what they are being taught. When they have an interest then they go for it. When kids are given an education they discover a passion for something important to them and they will go higher and higher and never give up on their dreams. When the light goes on, that is when they start to discover and to learn. That is when education is most important because then it will hopefully become a turning point in their life. Everyone should get to go to a free school and learn new things. I want every kid to have a passion for something and to be able to have a chance to pursue their dreams. I want every kid to get the chance because it is not only fair, it is something necessary. I hope that having an education will light all the flames and not just fill all the pails. Erin, I want to speak directly to you today. I want to tell you that as your Governor, I am going to do everything I possibly can to make sure that fire remains lit for as long as you and your classmates are in school. The light will remain lit.

As dedicated teachers and parents advocated for children, I realized that someone needed to advocate for the teachers and staff that lead lives of service. That duty belongs to the governor and legislators as leaders of a state that prides itself on its schools and educational opportunity. The fact remains that those supplies, textbooks, or the most sophisticated technology mean very little without quality teachers and staff.

This duty extends beyond K-12 and includes advocating for higher education as well. Without support our colleges and universities will not attract the quality of faculty or staff required to maintain academic excellence on our campuses unless they continue to rely on higher tuitions which price too many out of opportunity.

Public concerns were not limited to teacher and educators, nurses, hospital workers, health care professionals like chiropractors and pharmacists, mental health advocates, and people with disabilities, all raised similar issues about health care.

Our state ranks in the top six states for quality health care according to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid and we can take pride in the fact that more than 90% of all Iowans and 94% of all Iowa children have health care security. However, without continued investments in our Medicaid program for seniors and low-income persons with disabilities and our children's health insurance program, access to critical services will be denied to Iowans most in need. Cheryl Jones, a nurse from Bloomfield confirmed at the Ottumwa hearing that occurs today in some rural areas of our state.

With frequent changes to the nation's homeland security threat level, we need no reminder of the importance of adequately staffed, trained, and equipped local law enforcement officers, firefighters, and first responders. At every public hearing those on the frontline of homeland security, like firefighter Chris Sorenson from Council Bluffs, outlined the negative impact on security efforts resulting from state cuts in support to local governments. As layoffs occur in critical security positions and as training and equipment purchases are delayed or deferred at the local level, the question can appropriately be asked of us – given the magnitude of the risk, from terrorism to meth labs, are we comfortable being understaffed, untrained, and ill equipped?

Yesterday, at my instruction, the Department of Management furnished each member of the General Assembly a budget based on revenues as they are. A budget that if passed, will confirm the fears and ignore the priorities of the hundreds of Iowans we heard during our public hearings. A budget after all is not just a set of numbers. Our budget should reflect our values, demonstrate our priorities, and positively affect people's lives.

Let me be as clear as I can be. A budget based solely on available revenues under funds education at every level and fails to meet our basic responsibility to provide our children with great schools, colleges and universities. With it we run the risk of extinguishing the passion for education, a return to declining student achievement and test scores and a continuation of higher tuitions, eliminating for some, the dream and the opportunity of a higher education.

A budget based solely on available revenues under funds health care and fails to keep faith with the Iowa promise of health care security for seniors needing nursing homes, for people with mental illness or physical disabilities needing specialized care, and for uninsured children.

A budget based solely on available revenues under funds property tax credits and local government support and fails to strengthen the partnership between state and local government. With this budget the deal for Iowans from local government is simple - higher property taxes and fewer critical services – pay more get less.

We must not turn our backs on our children, our seniors, our friends and neighbors with disabilities – on all Iowans. We can and we must do better.

The budget we enact at this critical juncture for our state must protect our priorities, preserve our values, and promote the greater good and the brighter tomorrow for all of us. Our budget must reflect the people's interest, not the special interest. Guided by fairness and equity the budget must ask some to sacrifice more for the betterment of all.

To bridge the gap between revenues and our priorities I propose a three-step plan based on simple fairness and equity and not one based on an income or sales tax rate increase.

Step one. Modernize the sales tax system by expanding the base of services subject to tax and lowering over time the sales tax rate – an approach suggested last year by the Speaker. We would generate sufficient revenue to increase support for all levels of education in the short term while reducing taxes for most Iowa families in the long run. This approach builds upon what we started last year in modernizing our property tax system and remains consistent with fair and equitable tax policy of broadening the base and reducing the rates.

Step two. Today in Iowa we all pay for smoking related illnesses through taxes and higher insurance premiums. We pay more for the treatment of smoking related illnesses than what we receive from those who smoke. We need to correct this inequity by better balancing what we receive with what we spend. An increase in what smokers pay to smoke, an idea advanced last year by senate republican leaders, will create a better balance while generating the revenues to keep faith with those who need health care.

Step three. By simply closing tax loopholes and ending unfair preferences; we will collect sufficient revenues to fully fund property tax credits. Property owners would receive the full benefit of the credits lowering their property taxes without a cut in essential services.

I will submit a budget this week that provides the details, but let me outline the impact of what I propose today.

Our sales tax system reflects a 20th century economy centered more on goods being sold rather than services being provided. The narrow base of activities subject to tax means most of us pay a higher rate than necessary. By extending sales tax to services like engineering, surveying, accounting, consulting and the like, we can better align the system to the economy of today. With an expanded base, we should systematically reduce the rate of tax on all transactions by 15% over the next four years.

The additional revenues collected during the period where rate reduction is phased in can act as a bridge to better times and will enable us to more adequately fund education.

Under the approach that I offer our state, support for schools would increase by \$131 million. We would fully fund this year's allowable growth including restoring state funds that were cut from last year's budget. We would continue and expand the teacher compensation – student achievement effort started two years ago. State

resources would act as incentive for local districts to reduce administrative costs and redirect those savings into greater support for teacher compensation and professional development. Important efforts to reduce class sizes, improve reading and prevent dropouts would continue without interruption. New efforts to meaningfully tackle the achievement gap among minority students would be launched in places like Waterloo and Sioux City.

What does it mean for schools? – More and better-qualified teachers and smaller class sizes. For our children it means better learning opportunities. For Iowa's future it means a more educated and productive workforce to meet the challenges of a 21st century global economy.

Additional funds would also be available for empowerment and early childhood education. If we are to leave no child behind we must begin by making sure that no child starts behind.

Higher education would also benefit. Community colleges would receive increased state aid. The Regent's universities would receive support to fully fund faculty and staff salaries. Students relying on the Iowa Tuition Grant program would receive additional help with tuition costs. Quality higher education would remain affordable for working families.

Finally, resources would also be available to better support tuition assistance for National Guard members, which will aid in recruiting and retaining soldiers, airmen and airwomen in Iowa.

Bottom line under this sales tax modernization proposal: a few will pay more, most will pay less and all will benefit, as Iowa remains an education leader. Most important of all, our children will enjoy the fruits of educational excellence as they grow up and become the everyday leaders and heroes of tomorrow.

No doubt exists that smoking costs all of us and kills too many of us. Fairness and equity dictate that smokers should assume more of the responsibility of the costs of smoking-related illnesses. As they do, research tells us that fewer children will begin smoking and more lives will be saved.

With a 60-cent increase in the cost of every pack of cigarettes, resources will be freed up to keep faith with seniors and their long-term care needs. We can begin weaning ourselves from reliance on the senior living trust to help fund nursing home care. This fund can be preserved longer for its primary purpose of financing in-home care. The dignity and independence of seniors – an Iowa tradition, can be expanded and not curtailed.

Additional investments will be made to continue our children's health insurance effort; and to more adequately fund substance abuse treatment and smoking prevention efforts.

In response to the legislature's charge, the Mental Health Developmental Disabilities Commission issued a blueprint for redesigning the system of services for adults with disabilities.

Their recommendations will assure basic quality services statewide to support Iowans with mental retardation, mental illness, developmental disabilities and brain injury, to live to their God-given potential.

Revenue will now be available to fund the commission's recommendations bringing hope to those facing mental and physical challenges.

At the same time, the growing crisis in which tens of thousands of Iowa's children and seniors fail to get even simple routine dental care can be addressed. If children of low-income families or seniors cannot get to a dentist office, we will bring the office to them. These mobile offices will provide routine but necessary dental care that will improve health outcomes.

A few will pay more to offset the costs paid by all and our most vulnerable citizens will be assured of health care security.

Today, some avoid the payment of their fair share of the costs of essential services and some receive the benefit of property tax credits actually designed for others. A number of corporations, particularly non-Iowan, out-of-state corporations shift income and expenses to avoid paying millions of state taxes owed here. At the same time, the ag land tax credit (against property taxes) designed for those who farm the land is also available to those who own the farmland but allow others to farm it. Providing these credits to absentee landlords costs the state millions of dollars.

This corporate loophole should be closed and this special preference for absentee landowners should be ended. The revenues and savings should be dedicated to more fully funding local property tax credits and services assisting local governments. While a few may pay more, most will pay less, and essential services protecting our families and communities will continue.

Even with the approach I've outlined, some areas of state government will receive less and more sacrifice will be required. Efforts began four years ago to reduce the size of state government and to improve efficiency and effectiveness must continue. Budgets and workforces have been cut and more may be required, but I am confident in the commitment and ability of those working for us in state government to get the job done.

With a people's budget and a common-sense bridge approach to financing it, our responsibilities will be met and our priorities will be preserved in the short term. But this will not be so over the long term unless we continue the work begun over the last four years to transform our economy.

Before I talk about continued efforts to transform our economy, I want to talk about a transformation of a different type – the transformation of the heart. Bullying and harassment takes place in too many of our schools. No one has the right to harass or bully because of the color of one's skin, the language one speaks or the language one does not speak, a person's religion, a person's politics, a person's appearance, or of a person's perceived or real sexual orientation. Every child deserves a safe haven at school to learn and to grow. Teachers, administrators, and staff must guarantee that safe havens and schools must be held accountable when bullying or harassment takes place. I will present to the General Assembly legislation that will require that accountability and I ask for your consideration and support.

All around the state, evidence of change in our economy exists. The construction of new power facilities, expansion of high speed internet to many areas of the state, a doubling of ethanol production facilities, the commencement of bio diesel and bio-mass energy production, the building of the new beef harvesting facility at Tama, the creation of the Plant Science Center at Iowa State University, the establishment of state and local venture capital funds, and the locating of the nation's largest wind energy project reflect the emergence of the transformed Iowa 21st century economy.

The Grow Iowa Values Fund represents a major effort to continue our effort to transform the Iowa economy. In less than a year and with funding only guaranteed for two years, the Values Fund began to stabilize manufacturing jobs threatened by overseas competition, to create thousands of good paying opportunities in the financial services and insurance sector, and to form Iowa's special niche in the growing bio-economy. From Lenox in Marshalltown to Wells Fargo in West Des Moines and Des Moines to Trans Ova in Sioux Center, interest in Iowa opportunities continues to grow. Last year at this time, our Department of Economic Development listed 60 potential projects in the pipeline – today that number has quadrupled to 240 potential projects.

The vital work of the Grow Iowa Values Fund must continue, but under its current structure, assurances for funding remains guaranteed for only two of the seven years of the fund. Initial investments have been made in Iowa's growth. With the investment 3,557 new, good-paying jobs will be part of our future and almost 1,000 good-paying jobs, already part of our economy, will be retained. These new opportunities will generate over the next decade more than \$2 billion of additional income for Iowans and an additional \$197,000,000 in support of better schools for our children, accessible healthcare for seniors and veterans, and available fire and police protection when we need it for our families and communities.

The timid and the hesitant never lead a transformation. The better future belongs to those with faith in the future. Members of the General Assembly, finish the good work you started last year by eliminating any conditions on future funding for the Values Fund. Guarantee these funds for the full seven years of the program – and watch Iowa grow.

Four years ago, members of the General Assembly reflected a strong belief in our future by expanding the successful Community Attractions and Tourism program into the Vision Iowa program. This effort fueled a transformation of 119 communities into cultural and recreational centers. In Gladbrook, Iowa, I've seen a refurbished theatre providing family entertainment while acting as a powerful symbol of a small community's desire to remain strong. I've seen the America's River project, a celebration of the Mississippi River's many gifts to us, in Dubuque; the Tyson events Center in Sioux City; the Mid-American Convention Center in Council Bluffs; and the steam-powered carousel in my hometown, Mt. Pleasant. Projects border to border and places in between – encourage people from outside Iowa to enjoy a wide variety of cultural and recreational treats. These tourists and thousands like them will help spur the local and state economy. In addition, these programs led to thousands of good paying construction jobs and permanent jobs operating and managing the facilities.

The success of the CAT and Vision Iowa program and the wonderful variety of artistic, cultural, and recreational experiences in our state deserve recognition and celebration. It is in uncertain times like ours that we seek pleasure, solace, and instruction in the arts and humanities. A vibrant society gains meaning and direction

from its creative thinkers. We should celebrate and appreciate the impact arts; culture and recreation play in our lives during this year – 2004 – The Year of the Arts, Culture, and Recreation in Iowa. Studies show that creativity spurs economic growth; breakthroughs in understanding are essential to the task of building a world of opportunity. Creative thinking, the hallmark of Iowa's success, will lead us to a more dynamic future.

We should not and we must not be satisfied with what has been done with CAT and Vision Iowa. We must focus on what more can be done if the programs are continued and expanded.

We are blessed with breathtakingly beautiful open spaces and wonderful streams, rivers, and lakes. These natural resources should be celebrated and more fully utilized.

Last year thousands of Iowans participated in a consensus driven process to improve water quality that culminated in the water quality summit in Ames, Iowa. Summit participants identified many ways in which we could improve water quality with the ultimate goal of eliminating any impaired waters within our state.

From the summit there was broad consensus that our approach must be based on a respect for the natural lay of our land rather than artificial boundaries. As such, we must develop a watershed approach – locally led and locally based – to enable a holistic approach to improving water quality and targeting high priority watersheds. The Summit confirmed what we suspected: that existing efforts must be better coordinated and better focused on targeted areas for improvement. Our collective work to initiate a comprehensive water-monitoring program has greatly enhanced our efforts. Water monitoring must be continued and expanded. It was also evident from the Summit that additional research is necessary to enhance our ability to improve water quality.

Living in Iowa means accepting responsibility for preserving and protecting our natural resources. Every one of us should engage in the effort to preserve our soil and protect our air and water. Our state budget in every year, even in years of tight budgets, must reflect that responsibility.

Our ability to continue transformation depends on our ability to improve quality of life in Iowa. We sometimes fail to recognize how important the environment is to our quality of life. We must continue to invest in the protection of our natural resources to be true to our heritage and our name; Iowa – a beautiful land.

To that end I recommend an increase in our commitment to the Environment First Fund. We should also extend Vision Iowa and CAT by \$150 million to come from additional bonding and to be repaid over time from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure fund. With interest rates low and the State's exceptional bond rating the time will never be better. Repayment from RIIF insures no conflict with the important education, health care, and security protection of our general fund. These resources should be committed to protection and preservation of our natural resources, with emphasis on improving water quality and to expand our understanding of the environment and the important role it plays in transforming Iowa. There is unlimited potential for us and if we are as successful in expanding the program as we were in starting the program we could see up to a billion dollars invested in our quality of life in the next decade.

Today, and for the foreseeable future, Iowans will be placed in harms way in the service of liberty and freedom. Their task of improving the world in which we all live is our task as well. In our work at home we should draw inspiration from them to do our duty.

While they make the world safer, we must make our schools better, our health care more accessible and affordable, our families and communities more secure, and our environment cleaner and our economy stronger. They sacrifice to transform a nation and open up opportunity for someone else's child. We sacrifice to transform a state and open up opportunity for their children and all of our children.

They will not fail the world. We must not fail them ourselves.

God bless these brave young men and women – our troops here and abroad – and all those who serve and sacrifice for others. God bless our nation and God bless the great state of Iowa.

Governor Thomas J. Vilsack was escorted from the House chamber by the committee previously appointed.

On motion by Gipp of Winneshiek, the joint convention was dissolved at 10:54 a.m.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

BOARD OF REGENTS

Estimated Fiscal Year 2003 savings associated with the use of the Iowa Communications Network (ICN), pursuant to Chapter 8D.10, Code of Iowa.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Iowa Utilities Board

Annual report on the status of utility customers contribution funds, pursuant to Chapter 476.66(6), Code of Iowa.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Annual Report of the Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa (hawk-i), pursuant to Chapter 514.1(7)(g), Code of Iowa.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of Consumer Advocate

Report of estimate of rate of return on the common equity of a local exchange carrier operating under price regulation, pursuant to Chapter 476.98, Code of Iowa.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Report for electronics waste management in Iowa, pursuant to Chapter 4550.6(7), Code of Iowa.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

Report if Full – Size Off – Highway Vehicle Registration Program – Plan, pursuant to Chapter 152, Code of Iowa.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC DEFENSE

ICN Savings Report for Fiscal Year 2003 from Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, pursuant to Chapter 8D, Code of Iowa.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Report on the Collection Partnership, pursuant to Chapter 602.8107 and 602.8107(5), Code of Iowa.

IOWA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Summary of identified savings associated with ICN's use of the network during Fiscal Year 2003, pursuant to Chapter 8D.10, Code of Iowa.

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION

MR. SPEAKER: The Chief Clerk of the House respectfully reports that certificates of recognition have been issued as follows.

MARGARET A. THOMSON
Chief Clerk of the House

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 2004\11 | Cleo Dietsch, Waterloo – For celebrating her 80 th birthday. |
| 2004\12 | Helen Davis, Eldora – For celebrating her 90 th birthday. |
| 2004\13 | Helen Hartman, Clarinda – For celebrating her 89 th birthday. |
| 2004\14 | Faye McClarnon, Clarinda – For celebrating her 90 th birthday. |
| 2004\15 | Maxine and Archie Higgins, Clarinda – For celebrating their 65 th wedding anniversary. |
| 2004\16 | Dorothy and Willis Hollingsworth, Packwood – For celebrating their 50 th wedding anniversary. |
| 2004\17 | Agnes Parcell, Fairfield – For celebrating her 90 th birthday. |
| 2004\18 | Erma Smith, Fairfield – For celebrating her 90 th birthday. |

- 2004\19 Viola and George Jansen, George – For celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary.
- 2004\20 Ben Birks, Sioux Center – For being selected as one of the 400 students in the nation to participate in the National Youth Leadership Council in Washington, D.C., and therefore having the opportunity to play the roles of the United States Congress, the U.S. President and a Supreme Court Justice.
- 2004\21 Harley Behrens, George – For his 35 years of dedicated service to the Lyon County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service and the Lyon County Farm Service Agency.
- 2004\22 Donald Baum, Vinton – For celebrating his 80th birthday.
- 2004\23 Frances Hull, Marengo – For celebrating her 90th birthday.
- 2004\24 Lorraine Steinfeld, Vinton – For celebrating her 80th birthday.
- 2004\25 Wesley and Betty Smith, Guthrie Center – For celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.
- 2004\26 Edith Kading, Adair – For celebrating her 95th birthday.
- 2004\27 Nellie Watts, Guthrie Center – For celebrating her 90th birthday.

SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

House File 7 Reassigned

Education: Dolecheck, Chair; Dennis and Mascher.

House File 143 Reassigned

Education: Chambers, Chair; Berry and Dolecheck.

HOUSE STUDY BILL SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

House Study Bill 122 Reassigned

State Government: Raecker, Chair; Gaskill, Jochum, Jones, Lykam, Rasmussen and Roberts.

House Study Bill 501

Appropriations: Dix, Chair; Jenkins and Kuhn.

HOUSE STUDY BILL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

H.S.B. 503 Human Resources

Relating to determining compliance with course of study requirements regarding cosmetology licensure.

H.S.B. 504 Human Resources

Relating to uniform school requirements related to noncustodial parents.

H.S.B. 505 Human Resources

Relating to the diversion of child support payments to a college savings plan.

H.S.B. 506 Environmental Protection

Relating to enforcement of waste volume reduction and recycling issues and providing a penalty.

H.S.B. 507 Environmental Protection

Appropriating moneys in the waste tire management fund.

H.S.B. 508 Public Safety

Relating to the prosecution of certain simple misdemeanors committed in a city located in two or more counties.

H.S.B. 509 Public Safety

Relating to the release of sex offender registry records, and providing an effective date.

H.S.B. 510 Judiciary

Relating to abandonment of a child as grounds for termination of parental rights.

H.S.B. 511 Judiciary

Relating to safe deposit box access by a trustee of a trust created by the deceased owner or lessee of the safe deposit box.

H.S.B. 512 Judiciary

Excluding certain funeral and burial expenses in the determination of medical assistance eligibility.

H.S.B. 513 Judiciary

Relating to an individual's right of publicity, providing remedies, and including an applicability provision.

H.S.B. 514 Education

Authorizing school districts and nonpublic schools to apply credit under the state education program for successful completion of military basic training.

H.S.B. 515 Local Government

Relating to membership on certain city planning and zoning commissions.

On motion by Klemme of Plymouth the House adjourned at 11:17 a.m., until 8:45 a.m., Wednesday, January 14, 2004.