

Open Records and Public Meetings
Senate File 2411
As Amended by H-8546

Last Action:

**House
State Government
Committee**

April 15, 2008

Executive Summary Only

An Act creating an Iowa Public Information Board and making an appropriation.

Fiscal Services Division
Legislative Services Agency

NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS (NOBA)

Available on line at <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/index.jsp>

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS**

**SENATE FILE 2411 AS AMENDED BY H-8546
OPEN RECORDS AND PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**HOUSE STATE GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT H-8546**

APPROPRIATION

**NEW BOARD TRANSITION AND
PLANNING REPORT**

EXPECTED OPERATING COSTS

**FISCAL IMPACT FOR USE OF THE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL**

- Amendment H-8546 is a strike-after amendment. As amended, the Bill creates the new Iowa Public Information Board but does not make the policy changes to Chapters 21 and 22, Code of Iowa. Under the Amendment, the penalties for violations of those chapters are not changed.
- Establishes the Iowa Public Information Board (Board) and appropriates \$6,000 from the General Fund for travel and per diem costs for initial costs of the Board in FY 2009.
- The Board must be appointed by September 1, 2008, and must provide a report to the Governor and General Assembly on its goals, performance measures, and job description for the executive director before July 1, 2009. The Board may not begin hiring until FY 2010, but has the flexibility to hire attorneys, administrative law judges, and other personnel as necessary to execute its authority.
- Depending on the staffing needs determined by the Board and the caseload once the Board is operational, the expected operating costs, beginning in FY 2010, are as follows:
 - One time charges of \$104,000 for Iowa Communication Network setup and office furniture and equipment.
 - Ongoing support costs of \$56,000 to \$64,000 per year for office space, travel, training, and other administrative costs.
 - Salaries of \$423,000 to \$472,000 for 6.0 FTE positions.
- If the Board chooses to have the Office of the Attorney General (AG) handle cases going through judicial review, the expected fiscal impact on the AG Office will be approximately \$23,725 to \$47,450 for partial FTE position for an assistant attorney general to handle the work during the fiscal year. The Board has the option to use the AG Office or to represent itself in judicial proceedings.