

Studies Compilation

2021 Legislative Interim Study Information

Issued by the Legislative Services Agency, Legal Services Division

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Overview. This is a compilation of studies and studies-related information, including legislative appointments, mandated reports by the executive branch, and major state board and commission changes, for consideration by the Studies Committee of the Legislative Council. Except for the list of executive branch studies, items are listed in bill or resolution order. Attached to the compilation is an appendix containing the original legislation or document that caused the item to be included. Each appendix item is marked to correspond with the listing number in this document; for example, item 1 under part A is marked as A-1.

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A. Mandated or Authorized Legislative Studies in Code or Session Law

1. The **Legislative Tax Expenditure Committee** is created as a permanent body under the Legislative Council. The committee consists of five legislators from each chamber appointed by the Legislative Council. Duties include approving annual estimates of the cost of tax expenditures by December 15 each year and performing a scheduled review of specified tax credits. During the 2021 Legislative Interim, the committee is set to review the tax credits for homesteads, elderly and disabled property owners, agricultural land, military service, business property, and commercial and industrial property tax replacement claims. (Iowa Code §§2.45(5) and 2.48)
2. The **Legislative Health Policy Oversight Committee** is created as a permanent body under the Legislative Council. The committee consists of five legislators from each chamber appointed by the Legislative Council and is required to meet at least two times annually during the legislative interim to provide continuing oversight for Medicaid managed care, and to ensure effective and efficient administration of the program, address stakeholder concerns, monitor program costs and expenditures, and to make recommendations. (Iowa Code §2.45(6))
3. The **State Government Efficiency Review Committee** is created as a permanent legislative committee with five Senate members and five House members appointed at the beginning of a new General Assembly that meets, as directed by the Legislative Council, every two years to review state government organization and efficiency. The committee usually meets during

the legislative interim of odd-numbered years and last met during the 2019 Legislative Interim. (Iowa Code §2.69)

4. The **Public Retirement Systems Committee**, in accordance with Iowa Code §97D.4, is required to review and evaluate all public retirement systems in place in Iowa, including the Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System (IPERS), the Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System (Iowa Code chapter 411), the Department of Public Safety Police Officers' Retirement System (PORS), and the Judicial Retirement System. The committee usually meets during the legislative interim of odd-numbered years and last met during the 2019 Legislative Interim. (Iowa Code §97D.4)

B. Legislative Study Requests in Enacted Legislation

1. The Legislative Council is requested to authorize an interim study committee to meet during the 2021 Legislative Interim to **identify each health insurance mandate in the 2021 Iowa Code** and the details of such mandates. The committee shall also **analyze possible future health insurance mandates** and **identify the approximate number of Iowa residents covered by certain types of insurance**. The committee shall submit a report with its findings to the General Assembly by December 31, 2021. The legislation makes specific requests related to committee membership. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 838, §52)
2. The Legislative Council is requested to authorize an interim study committee to meet during the 2021 Legislative Interim to examine the **administrative costs, staffing levels, and allocation of staff at the institutions of higher learning governed by the State Board of Regents**, as well as **graduation and student retention rates for each academic program** at each such institution. The committee shall submit a report, including its findings and recommendations, to the General Assembly by December 15, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 868, §23)
3. The Legislative Council is requested to authorize an interim study committee to meet during the 2021 Legislative Interim to study the disclosure of information in officer personnel files as it relates to **Brady-Giglio impairment** and the efficiency of implementing a **statewide system for a Brady-Giglio list**. The committee shall submit a report, including findings and recommendations, to the Governor and General Assembly by December 16, 2021. The legislation makes specific requests related to committee membership. (2021 Iowa Acts, SF 342, §21)

C. Legislative Study and Permanent Committee Requests in Adopted or Filed Resolutions

None

D. Legislative Study Requests Submitted in a Letter or Memo

None

E. Executive Branch Studies Involving Legislative Appointments or a Special Directive

Veterans Affairs-Related Items

1. The Department of Veterans Affairs is required to conduct a study regarding **infrastructure needs related to veterans' cemeteries located in the state** and submit a report, including its findings and conclusions, to the General Assembly by January 14, 2022. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 862, §12)
2. The Iowa Veterans Home shall submit monthly expenditure reports to the General Assembly. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §5)

Education-Related Items

3. The Adjutant General of the Iowa National Guard is required to submit a report listing the **science, technology, engineering, and mathematics-related career fields** the Adjutant General intends to focus on in providing **educational incentives for the coming year** to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31 of each year. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 428, §4)
4. The State Board of Education shall file a comprehensive report with findings and recommendations relating to the **charter school program** and a copy of each charter school's mission statement, attendance statistics, dropout rate, aggregate assessment test scores, projections of financial stability, and the number and qualifications of teachers and administrators to the General Assembly by December 1 of each year. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 813, §12)
5. The Department of Education shall submit a report detailing the department's **antibullying programming and current and projected expenditures** for the 2021-2022 fiscal year to the General Assembly by January 15, 2022. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 868, §6)
6. The Vocational Rehabilitation Services Division of the Department of Education shall submit a report regarding the division's **outreach efforts with community rehabilitation program providers** to the General Assembly by January 15, 2022. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 868, §6)
7. The Iowa Reading Research Center is required to submit a report regarding the expenditure of moneys to establish and oversee the **advanced dyslexia specialist endorsement** to the General Assembly and the Legislative Services Agency for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 868, §6)
8. A **statewide not-for-profit health care organization** that **provides grief and loss services to children** shall submit a report, in collaboration with the Department of Education, detailing the expenditure of funds used to implement a **children's grief and loss rural pilot program** to the General Assembly by September 30, 2022. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 868, §6)
9. The State Board of Regents is required to submit **quarterly financial reports** for the 2021-2022 fiscal year to the General Assembly and the Legislative Services Agency. The report for the quarter ending December 31, 2021, shall include the five-year graduation rates for the regents universities. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 868, §10)
10. The director of the Department of Education shall convene a task force on **growing a diverse**

prekindergarten through grade 12 teacher base in Iowa, which shall submit a report, including findings and recommendations, to the Governor, General Assembly, and State Board of Education by December 15, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 868, §22)

11. The State Board of Regents is required to submit a report regarding the **activities, projects, and programs funded with moneys appropriated for capacity building infrastructure** in certain enumerated areas to the Governor and General Assembly by January 15, 2022. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 871, §17)
12. The Iowa State University of Science and Technology is required to submit a report regarding the total amount of **private contributions to the industrial incentive program**, the proportion of contributions from small businesses and other businesses, and the proportion for directed contract research and nondirected research of benefit to Iowa businesses and industrial sectors to the General Assembly. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 871, §17)
13. The **College Student Aid Commission** may organize a nonprofit corporation for the purposes of receiving and disbursing moneys to **provide lowans with educational financial assistance, increase access to success in postsecondary education, and research**. If the commission establishes a nonprofit corporation, the corporation shall submit a report regarding its activities and operations to the Governor and General Assembly annually by January 15. (2021 Iowa Acts, SF 261, §1)

Public Safety-Related Items

14. The Department of Public Safety is required to submit a report regarding the **expenditure of funds from and funds remaining in the public safety equipment fund** to the co-chairpersons and ranking members of the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on the Justice Systems and the Legislative Services Agency annually by December 31. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 708, §1)

Economic Development-Related Items

15. The Economic Development Authority and Department of Revenue shall submit a joint annual report detailing the amount of every **direct loan, forgivable loan, tax credit, tax exemption, tax refund, grant, or any other financial assistance** awarded to a person during the prior fiscal year under an economic development program administered by the authority to the General Assembly by November 1, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 871, §5)

Human Services-Related Items

16. The Department of Aging shall submit a report regarding the outcomes of the **pilot initiative to provide long-term care options counseling to assist non-Medicaid eligible consumers who indicate a preference to return to the community** to the Governor and General Assembly by December 15, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §1)
17. The Department of Public Health shall track and report to the Governor and General Assembly **any reduction in the provision of nicotine replacement products realized through the implementation of prerequisite screening**. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §3)
18. A **nationally affiliated volunteer eye organization with an established program dedicated to preserving sight and preventing blindness** is required to submit a report

regarding the use of moneys appropriated for that purpose, including the objectives and results of the program, to the General Assembly. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §3)

19. A recipient of funds for the **creation of a center of excellence program to encourage innovation and collaboration among rural regional health care providers** shall submit periodic reports regarding the expenditure of funds as specified by the Department of Public Health to the Governor and General Assembly. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §3)
20. The Department of Human Services shall advise the General Assembly and the Department of Management on a quarterly basis regarding the amount of appropriated funds expended on the **family investment program, state child care assistance program payments, and the family investment program share of system costs for eligibility determination and related functions** in the prior quarter. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §7)
21. The Department of Human Services is required to report **transfers of funds** within or between any of the appropriations made to the family investment program to the General Assembly. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §9)
22. The Department of Human Services is required to report **increases made to appropriations allocated to salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous purposes associated with the medical assistance program** to the General Assembly and Department of Management. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §13)
23. The Department of Human Services is required to report regarding the department's **operational and program expenditures** at least monthly to the General Assembly. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §28)
24. The Department of Human Services shall convene a workgroup to review the **case-mix reimbursement methodology and process for nursing facilities**. The workgroup shall submit recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §40)
25. The Department of Human Services shall review federal Medicare and state law and administrative rule restrictions related to the **provision of physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, applied behavior analysis, and other pediatric health care services to Medicaid-eligible children**. The department shall submit a report, including findings and recommendations, to the Governor and General Assembly by October 1, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §41)
26. A county with a population of more than 300,000 that has transferred funds from any fund to the **Mental Health and Disability Regional Services Fund** for the purposes of providing mental health and disability services for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, is required to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly regarding such transfers by September 1, 2022. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §55)
27. The Department of Human Services is required to report on the **expenditure of moneys for which nonreversion authorization was provided** for the 2020-2021 fiscal year for **field operations or general administration** to the General Assembly on a quarterly basis beginning October 1, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 891, §65)

28. The Department of Human Services is required to submit a plan for the **use of federal social services block grant moneys** in the subsequent fiscal year with the department's budget requests to the Governor and General Assembly. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 895, §13)
29. The Governor shall notify the chairpersons and ranking members of the Senate and House Standing Committees on Appropriations, the chairpersons and ranking members of the appropriate subcommittees of those committees, and the Director of the Legislative Services Agency prior to **reducing moneys allocated to certain programs if insufficient money is received from the federal government**. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 895, §16)
30. When the Department of Management is required to transmit data to the Office of the Inspector General of the United States Department of the Treasury associated with **the receipt of coronavirus relief moneys**, the department shall also transmit the data to the Legislative Services Agency. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 895, §27)
31. The Department of Human Services is required to convene a study committee to examine issues and develop policy recommendations relating to the **inpatient psychiatric bed tracking system**, including **expanding acuity of disabilities a facility may accept, increasing reimbursement rates, and implementing enhancements to accept and report real-time bed tracking data**. The committee shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly by December 15, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, SF 524, §1)
32. The Department of Human Services is required to submit a report regarding the **financial condition of the Mental Health and Disability Services Region Incentive Fund** to the Governor and General Assembly annually by March 1 and December 1. (2021 Iowa Acts, SF 619, §83)
33. The Department of Human Services is required to compile a list of **qualifying requests for Mental Health and Disability Services Region Incentive Funds** that are beyond the amount available in the fund and submit it to the Mental Health and Disability Services Commission, the Children's Behavioral Health System State Board, and the General Assembly. (2021 Iowa Acts, SF 619, §83)
34. The Department of Human Services is required to submit a report summarizing the status of **implementing core children's behavioral health services in each region** to the General Assembly quarterly beginning in the 2022-2023 fiscal year. (2021 Iowa Acts, SF 619, §93)
35. The Department of Human Services is required to convene a study committee to **evaluate the current mental health and disability region structure and operations in the context of the changes made in the statute**. The department shall submit its report, including findings and recommendations, to the Governor and General Assembly by December 15, 2022. (2021 Iowa Acts, SF 619, §107)

Transportation-Related Items

36. The Department of Transportation shall report to the Governor and the General Assembly regarding **problems, extraordinary costs, and recommendations** for the commercial driver's license driving skills test appointment scheduling system (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 828, §5)

Elections-Related Items

37. The State Registrar of Voters is required to submit a report regarding **cancellations of voter registrations** following a systematic confirmation program to the General Assembly annually by April 30. (2021 Iowa Acts, SF 413, §20)

Defense-Related Items

38. The Department of Public Defense is required to submit to the General Assembly by December 15, 2021, a report regarding **major maintenance projects at national guard armories and facilities** and other **construction and improvement projects** funded or intended to be funded from moneys appropriated to the department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 862, §1)

Justice Systems-Related Items

39. The Department of Justice is required to include **information on funding** from sources other than the General Fund provided to the department or to the Office of Consumer Advocate, and certain actual and expected reimbursements information, in a report submitted to the General Assembly by January 15, 2022. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 861, §1)
40. The Department of Corrections shall submit a report regarding **offenders employed in the private sector** to the General Assembly on a quarterly basis beginning on July 1, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 861, §7)
41. The Department of Corrections shall submit a report on **electronic monitoring of offenders** to the General Assembly by January 15, 2022. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 861, §8)
42. The Judicial Branch shall submit **monthly financial statements** to the Legislative Services Agency regarding the dollars and percentage spent of **budgeted versus actual revenues and expenditures** on a cumulative basis of **full-time equivalent positions and dollars**. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 864, §1)
43. The Judicial Branch shall submit a **semiannual update** to the Legislative Services Agency specifying the amounts of **finances, surcharges, and court costs collected using the Iowa Court Information System** since the last report. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 864, §1)
44. The Judicial Branch shall submit a report concerning the amounts **received and expended from the Court Technology and Modernization Fund for the 2020-2021 fiscal year** and **plans for expenditures for the 2021-2022 fiscal year** to the General Assembly by January 1, 2022. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 864, §1)

Insurance-Related Items

45. The Insurance Division shall notify the Iowa Code Editor upon the adoption of federal legislation **mandating that an insured may switch between private flood insurance and national flood insurance without risk of penalty**. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 583, §8)
46. The Insurance Division shall submit a report concerning **notifications of potential financial exploitation of eligible adults and investigations of such notifications** in the preceding calendar year to the Governor and General Assembly annually by January 15. (2021 Iowa

Acts, HF 839, §12)

Agriculture and Natural Resources-Related Items

47. The **artisanal butchery program task force** is created within the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship **to explore the feasibility of establishing an artisanal butchery program**. The task force shall submit a report including its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 31, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 857, §2)
48. The Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship is required to submit a report each quarter of the 2021-2022 fiscal year to the Legislative Services Agency, the Department of Management, the members of the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the chairpersons and ranking members of the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations, detailing the expenditure of moneys appropriated supporting the **Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship's administration, regulation, and programs**. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 860, §1)
49. The Department of Natural Resources is required to submit a report each quarter of the 2021-2022 fiscal year to the Legislative Services Agency, the Department of Management, the members of the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the chairpersons and ranking members of the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations, detailing the expenditure of moneys appropriated supporting the **Department of Natural Resources' administration, regulation, and programs**. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 860, §14)
50. The Department of Natural Resources is required to conduct a study regarding the **availability of visitor parking at state parks** and submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly by December 10, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 860, §22)
51. The **Iowa Cooperative Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics of Iowa State University of Science and Technology**, in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, is required to establish a **farm-to-table task force** to recommend how **institutional purchasers may be provided practical options to routinely acquire locally or regionally produced fresh food**. The task force shall submit its report, including findings and recommendations, to the Governor and General Assembly by December 10, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, SF 578, §22)

Administration and Regulation-Related Items

52. The Department of Inspections and Appeals, in coordination with the Investigations Division, is required to submit a report regarding the division's activities relative to **fraud in public assistance programs** for the 2020-2021 fiscal year to the General Assembly by December 1, 2021. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 867, §12)
53. The Department of Inspections and Appeals is required to provide an annual report to the Department of Management and the Legislative Services Agency on certain **fees billed and collected and expenditures from moneys retained by the department**. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 867, §13)

Local Government-Related Items

54. The governing board of the **county land record information system** shall submit a report regarding **financial information for calendar years 2020 and 2021, reserve funds, electronic recording fees, sustainability needs, and customer and stakeholder perceptions**, to the chairpersons and ranking members of the Committees on Local Government, the Legislative Services Agency, and each caucus or research staff director of the General Assembly by January 17, 2022. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 837, §3)
55. The Iowa Finance Authority shall submit a report regarding **distribution of disaster emergency assistance funds to local government entities** to the General Assembly annually by January 31. (2021 Iowa Acts, SF 619, §47)

F. Mandatory and Requested Future Legislative-Related Studies

None

G. Committees, Boards, and Commissions Established or Changed in 2021 Acts

1. The **Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Program Advisory Committee** is established. (2021 Iowa Acts, HF 603, §2)
No legislative appointments required

H. Committees, Boards, and Commissions Abolished in 2021 Acts

None