

PROOF

STATE OF IOWA

Senate Journal

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019

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JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH CALENDAR DAY
SIXTY-THIRD SESSION DAY

Senate Chamber
Des Moines, Iowa, Saturday, April 27, 2019

The Senate met in regular session at 10:09 a.m., President Schneider presiding.

Prayer was offered by the Honorable Tim Kraayenbrink, member of the Senate from Webster County, Fort Dodge, Iowa.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Senate Page Ben Theuma.

The Journal of Friday, April 26, 2019, was approved.

The Senate stood at ease at 10:12 a.m. until the fall of the gavel for the purpose of party caucuses.

The Senate resumed session at 11:46 a.m., President Schneider presiding.

HOUSE MESSAGE RECEIVED AND CONSIDERED

The following message was received from the Chief Clerk of the House:

MR. PRESIDENT: I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House has on April 27, 2019, **amended and passed** the following bill in which the concurrence of the Senate is asked:

Senate File 638, a bill for an act relating to state and local finances by making appropriations, providing for legal and regulatory responsibilities, providing for other properly related matters, and including effective date, applicability, and retroactive applicability provisions. ([S-3262](#))

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Leaves of absence were granted as follows:

Senators Lykam and T. Taylor, until they arrive, on request of Senator Petersen.

CONSIDERATION OF BILL
(Regular Calendar)

Senator Whitver asked and received unanimous consent to take up for consideration [House File 764](#).

[House File 764](#)

On motion of Senator Whiting, [House File 764](#), a bill for an act relating to publication and procedural provisions relating to proposed constitutional amendments and including effective date provisions, with report of committee recommending passage, was taken up for consideration.

Senator Whiting moved that the bill be read the last time now and placed upon its passage, which motion prevailed by a voice vote, and the bill was read the last time.

On the question "Shall the bill pass?" ([H.F. 764](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 40:

Behn	Bisignano	Boulton	Breitbach
Brown	Carlin	Celsi	Chapman
Costello	Cournoyer	Dawson	Edler
Feenstra	Garrett	Greene	Guth
Jochum	Johnson	Kapucian	Kinney
Koelker	Kraayenbrink	Lofgren	Miller-Meeks
Nunn	Ragan	Rozenboom	Schneider
Schultz	Segebart	Shipley	Sinclair
Smith, R.	Sweeney	Taylor, R.	Wahls
Whiting	Whitver	Zaun	Zumbach

Nays, 8:

Bolkcom	Dotzler	Giddens	Hogg
Mathis	Petersen	Quirnbach	Smith, J.

Absent, 2:

Lykam	Taylor, T.
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The bill, having received a constitutional majority, was declared to have passed the Senate and the title was agreed to.

IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Whitver asked and received unanimous consent that [House File 764](#) be **immediately messaged** to the House.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS (Ways and Means Calendar)

Senator Whitver asked and received unanimous consent to take up for consideration [House File 767](#) and [Senate File 631](#).

[House File 767](#)

On motion of Senator Kapucian, [House File 767](#), a bill for an act relating to motor vehicle taxes and fees, including registration fees for certain electric vehicles, an excise tax on hydrogen used as special fuel, and an excise tax on electricity used as electric fuel, providing penalties, making penalties applicable, and including effective date provisions, with report of committee recommending passage, was taken up for consideration.

Senator Hogg offered amendment [S-3240](#), filed by him on April 26, 2019, to page 1 of the bill, and moved its adoption.

A record roll call was requested.

On the question “Shall amendment [S-3240](#) be adopted?” ([H.F. 767](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 16:

Bisignano	Bolkcom	Boulton	Celsi
Dotzler	Giddens	Hogg	Jochum
Kinney	Mathis	Petersen	Quirmbach
Ragan	Smith, J.	Taylor, R.	Wahls

Nays, 32:

Behn	Breitbach	Brown	Carlin
Chapman	Costello	Cournoyer	Dawson
Edler	Feenstra	Garrett	Greene
Guth	Johnson	Kapucian	Koelker
Kraayenbrink	Lofgren	Miller-Meeks	Nunn
Rozenboom	Schneider	Schultz	Segebart
Shiple	Sinclair	Smith, R.	Sweeney
Whiting	Whitver	Zaun	Zumbach

Absent, 2:

Lykam Taylor, T.

Amendment [S-3240](#) lost.

Senator Kapucian moved that the bill be read the last time now and placed upon its passage, which motion prevailed by a voice vote, and the bill was read the last time.

On the question “Shall the bill pass?” ([H.F. 767](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 34:

Behn	Breitbach	Brown	Carlin
Chapman	Costello	Cournoyer	Dawson
Edler	Feenstra	Garrett	Greene
Guth	Johnson	Kapucian	Kinney
Koelker	Kraayenbrink	Lofgren	Miller-Meeks
Nunn	Quirmbach	Rozenboom	Schneider
Schultz	Segebart	Shiple	Sinclair
Smith, R.	Sweeney	Whiting	Whitver
Zaun	Zumbach		

Nays, 14:

Bisignano	Bolkcom	Boulton	Celsi
Dotzler	Giddens	Hogg	Jochum
Mathis	Petersen	Ragan	Smith, J.
Taylor, R.	Wahls		

Absent, 2:

Lykam Taylor, T.

The bill, having received a constitutional majority, was declared to have passed the Senate and the title was agreed to.

[Senate File 631](#)

On motion of Senator Feenstra, **[Senate File 631](#)**, a bill for an act relating to the administration of the tax and related laws by the department of revenue, including the administration and modification of certain tax credits and refunds, the individual and corporate income taxes, franchise taxes, franchise alternative minimum taxes, moneys and credits taxes, sales and use taxes, and automobile rental excise taxes, the assessment of property owned by certain long distance telephone companies, establishing a taxation and exemption of computers task force, and providing for other properly related matters, making penalties applicable, and including effective date and retroactive applicability provisions, was taken up for consideration.

Senator Feenstra offered amendment **[S-3256](#)**, filed by him on April 26, 2019, striking and replacing everything after the enacting clause and amending the title page of the bill, and moved its adoption.

Amendment **[S-3256](#)** was adopted by a voice vote.

Senator Feenstra asked and received unanimous consent that **[House File 779](#)** be **substituted** for **[Senate File 631](#)**.

[House File 779](#)

On motion of Senator Feenstra, [House File 779](#), a bill for an act relating to the administration of the tax and related laws by the department of revenue, including the administration and modification of certain tax credits and refunds, the individual and corporate income taxes, franchise taxes, franchise alternative minimum taxes, moneys and credits taxes, sales and use taxes, and automobile rental excise taxes, the assessment of property owned by certain long distance telephone companies, establishing a taxation and exemption of computers task force, and providing for other properly related matters, making penalties applicable, and including effective date and retroactive applicability provisions, was taken up for consideration.

Senator Feenstra moved that the bill be read the last time now and placed upon its passage, which motion prevailed by a voice vote, and the bill was read the last time.

On the question "Shall the bill pass?" ([H.F. 779](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 44:

Behn	Bisignano	Boulton	Breitbach
Brown	Carlin	Chapman	Costello
Cournoyer	Dawson	Dotzler	Edler
Feenstra	Garrett	Giddens	Greene
Guth	Hogg	Jochum	Johnson
Kapucian	Kinney	Koelker	Kraayenbrink
Lofgren	Mathis	Miller-Meeks	Nunn
Petersen	Ragan	Rozenboom	Schneider
Schultz	Segebart	Shipley	Sinclair
Smith, J.	Smith, R.	Sweeney	Wahls
Whiting	Whitver	Zaun	Zumbach

Nays, 4:

Bolkcom	Celsi	Quirmbach	Taylor, R.
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Absent, 2:

Lykam	Taylor, T.
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The bill, having received a constitutional majority, was declared to have passed the Senate and the title was agreed to.

WITHDRAWN

Senator Feenstra asked and received unanimous consent that [Senate File 631](#) be **withdrawn** from further consideration of the Senate.

IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Whitver asked and received unanimous consent that **House Files 767 and 779** be **immediately messaged** to the House.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS
(Unfinished Business Calendar)

Senator Whitver asked and received unanimous consent to take up for consideration [Senate File 338](#) and [House File 732](#).

[Senate File 338](#)

On motion of Senator Nunn, [Senate File 338](#), a bill for an act relating to the transfer of dangerous persons with mental illness from a hospital for persons with mental illness to the Iowa medical and classification center, placed on the Unfinished Business Calendar on April 4, 2019, was taken up for consideration.

Senator Nunn offered amendment [S-3246](#), filed by him on April 26, 2019, striking and replacing everything after the enacting clause and amending the title page of the bill, and moved its adoption.

Amendment [S-3246](#) was adopted by a voice vote.

Senator Nunn asked and received unanimous consent that [House File 421](#) be **substituted** for [Senate File 338](#).

[House File 421](#)

On motion of Senator Nunn, [House File 421](#), a bill for an act relating to the transfer of dangerous persons with mental illness from a hospital for persons with mental illness to the Iowa medical and classification center, was taken up for consideration.

Senator Nunn moved that the bill be read the last time now and placed upon its passage, which motion prevailed by a voice vote, and the bill was read the last time.

On the question "Shall the bill pass?" ([H.F. 421](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 31:

Behn	Breitbart	Brown	Carlin
Chapman	Costello	Cournoyer	Edler
Feenstra	Garrett	Greene	Guth
Johnson	Kapucian	Koelker	Kraayenbrink
Lofgren	Miller-Meeks	Nunn	Rozenboom
Schneider	Schultz	Segebart	Shipley
Sinclair	Smith, R.	Sweeney	Whiting
Whitver	Zaun	Zumbach	

Nays, 16:

Bisignano	Bolkcom	Boulton	Celsi
Dotzler	Giddens	Hogg	Jochum
Kinney	Mathis	Petersen	Quirnbach
Ragan	Smith, J.	Taylor, R.	Wahls

Absent, 3:

Dawson	Lykam	Taylor, T.
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The bill, having received a constitutional majority, was declared to have passed the Senate and the title was agreed to.

WITHDRAWN

Senator Nunn asked and received unanimous consent that [Senate File 338](#) be **withdrawn** from further consideration of the Senate.

CONSIDERATION OF BILL (Unfinished Business Calendar)

Senator Zaun asked and received unanimous consent to take up for consideration [House File 732](#).

House File 732

On motion of Senator Zaun, [House File 732](#), a bill for an act relating to the medical cannabidiol Act, placed on the Unfinished Business Calendar on April 11, 2019, with report of committee recommending amendment and passage, was taken up for consideration.

Senator Zaun offered amendment [S-3124](#), filed by the committee on Judiciary on April 4, 2019, to page 1 of the bill, and moved its adoption.

Amendment [S-3124](#) lost by a voice vote.

Senator Sinclair took the chair at 1:39 p.m.

Senator Zaun moved that the bill be read the last time now and placed upon its passage, which motion prevailed by a voice vote, and the bill was read the last time.

On the question "Shall the bill pass?" ([H.F. 732](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 40:

Bisignano	Bolkcom	Boulton	Brown
Celsi	Chapman	Cournoyer	Dotzler
Edler	Giddens	Greene	Guth
Hogg	Jochum	Johnson	Kapucian
Kinney	Koelker	Kraayenbrink	Lofgren
Mathis	Miller-Meeks	Nunn	Petersen
Quirnbach	Ragan	Rozenboom	Schneider
Schultz	Segebart	Shiple	Sinclair
Smith, J.	Smith, R.	Sweeney	Taylor, R.
Wahls	Whitver	Zaun	Zumbach

Nays, 7:

Behn	Breitbach	Carlin	Costello
Feenstra	Garrett	Whiting	

Absent, 3:

Dawson	Lykam	Taylor, T.
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The bill, having received a constitutional majority, was declared to have passed the Senate and the title was agreed to.

IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Whitver asked and received unanimous consent that **House Files 421 and 732** be **immediately messaged** to the House.

HOUSE MESSAGE RECEIVED AND CONSIDERED

The following message was received from the Chief Clerk of the House:

MR. PRESIDENT: I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House has on April 27, 2019, **amended** the Senate amendment, **concurred** in the Senate amendment **as amended, and passed** the following bill in which the concurrence of the Senate is asked:

House File 766, A bill for an act relating to appropriations for health and human services and veterans and including other related provisions and appropriations, providing penalties, and including effective date and retroactive and other applicability date provisions. (**S-3263**)

HOUSE AMENDMENT TO
SENATE AMENDMENT CONSIDERED**House File 766**

Senator Whitver called up for consideration **House File 766**, a bill for an act relating to appropriations for health and human services and veterans and including other related provisions and appropriations, providing penalties, and including effective date and retroactive and other applicability date provisions, amended by the Senate and further amended by the House in House amendment **S-3263** to Senate amendment **H-1322**, filed April 27, 2019.

Senator Costello moved that the Senate concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment.

The motion prevailed by a voice vote and the Senate **concurred** in the House amendment to the Senate amendment.

Senator Costello moved that the bill, as amended by the Senate, further amended by the House and concurred in by the Senate, be read the last time now and placed upon its passage, which motion prevailed by voice vote and the bill was read the last time.

President Schneider took the chair at 2:01 p.m.

On the question "Shall the bill pass?" ([H.F. 766](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 31:

Behn	Breitbach	Brown	Carlin
Chapman	Costello	Cournoyer	Dawson
Edler	Feenstra	Garrett	Guth
Johnson	Kapucian	Koelker	Kraayenbrink
Lofgren	Miller-Meeks	Nunn	Rozenboom
Schneider	Schultz	Segebart	Shipley
Sinclair	Smith, R.	Sweeney	Whiting
Whitver	Zaun	Zumbach	

Nays, 17:

Bisignano	Bolkcom	Boulton	Celsi
Dotzler	Giddens	Greene	Hogg
Jochum	Kinney	Mathis	Petersen
Quirnbach	Ragan	Smith, J.	Taylor, R.
Wahls			

Absent, 2:

Lykam	Taylor, T.
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The bill, having received a constitutional majority, was declared to have passed the Senate and the title was agreed to.

IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Whitver asked and received unanimous consent that [House File 766](#) be **immediately messaged** to the House.

HOUSE AMENDMENT TO
SENATE AMENDMENT CONSIDERED

[House File 760](#)

Senator Whitver called up for consideration [House File 760](#), a bill for an act relating to the exemption from the hotel and motel taxes for the renting of lodging after a certain number of consecutive days, amended by the Senate and further amended by the House in House amendment [S-3261](#) to Senate amendment [H-1316](#), filed April 26, 2019.

Senator Dawson moved that the Senate refuse to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment.

The motion prevailed by a voice vote and the Senate **refused to concur** in the House amendment to the Senate amendment.

IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Whitver asked and received unanimous consent that [House File 760](#) be **immediately messaged** to the House.

HOUSE AMENDMENT CONSIDERED

[Senate File 638](#)

Senator Whitver called up for consideration [Senate File 638](#), a bill for an act relating to state and local finances by making appropriations, providing for legal and regulatory responsibilities, providing for other properly related matters, and including effective date, applicability, and retroactive applicability provisions, amended by the House in House amendment [S-3262](#), filed April 27, 2019.

Senator Breitbach moved that the Senate concur in the House amendment.

A record roll call was requested.

On the question "Shall the motion to concur be adopted?" ([S.F. 638](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 33:

Behn	Breitbach	Brown	Carlin
Chapman	Costello	Cournoyer	Dawson
Dotzler	Edler	Feenstra	Garrett
Greene	Guth	Johnson	Kapucian
Koelker	Kraayenbrink	Lofgren	Miller-Meeks
Nunn	Rozenboom	Schneider	Schultz
Segebart	Shipley	Sinclair	Smith, R.
Sweeney	Whiting	Whitver	Zaun
Zumbach			

Nays, 15:

Bisignano	Bolkcom	Boulton	Celsi
Giddens	Hogg	Jochum	Kinney
Mathis	Petersen	Quirmbach	Ragan
Smith, J.	Taylor, R.	Wahls	

Absent, 2:

Lykam	Taylor, T.
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The motion prevailed by a voice vote and the Senate **concurred** in the House amendment.

Senator Breitbach moved that the bill, as amended by the House and concurred in by the Senate, be read the last time now and placed upon its passage, which motion prevailed by voice vote, and the bill was read the last time.

On the question "Shall the bill pass?" ([S.F. 638](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 32:

Behn	Breitbach	Brown	Carlin
Chapman	Costello	Cournoyer	Dawson
Edler	Feenstra	Garrett	Greene
Guth	Johnson	Kapucian	Koelker
Kraayenbrink	Lofgren	Miller-Meeks	Nunn
Rozenboom	Schneider	Schultz	Segebart
Shipley	Sinclair	Smith, R.	Sweeney
Whiting	Whitver	Zaun	Zumbach

Nays, 16:

Bisignano	Bolkcom	Boulton	Celsi
Dotzler	Giddens	Hogg	Jochum
Kinney	Mathis	Petersen	Quirmbach
Ragan	Smith, J.	Taylor, R.	Wahls

Absent, 2:

Lykam Taylor, T.

The bill, having received a constitutional majority, was declared to have passed the Senate and the title was agreed to.

IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Whitver asked and received unanimous consent that [Senate File 638](#) be **immediately messaged** to the House.

RECESS

On motion of Senator Whitver, the Senate recessed at 2:22 p.m. until the completion of a meeting of the committee on Rules and Administration.

RECONVENED

The Senate reconvened at 2:23 p.m., President Schneider presiding.

HOUSE MESSAGE RECEIVED AND CONSIDERED

The following message was received from the Chief Clerk of the House:

MR. PRESIDENT: I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House has on April 27, 2019, **adopted** the following resolution in which the concurrence of the Senate is asked:

[House Concurrent Resolution 14](#), a concurrent resolution to provide for adjournment sine die.

Read first time and **placed on calendar**.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION
(Regular Calendar)

Senator Whitver asked and received unanimous consent to take up for consideration [House Concurrent Resolution 14](#).

[House Concurrent Resolution 14](#)

On motion of Senator Whitver, [House Concurrent Resolution 14](#), A concurrent resolution to provide for adjournment sine die, was taken up for consideration.

Senator Whitver moved the adoption of [House Concurrent Resolution 14](#), which motion prevailed by a voice vote.

IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Whitver asked and received unanimous consent that [House Concurrent Resolution 14](#) be **immediately messaged** to the House.

FINAL ADJOURNMENT

By virtue of [House Concurrent Resolution 14](#), duly adopted, the day of April 27, 2019, having arrived, President Schneider declared the 2019 Regular Session of the Eighty-eighth General Assembly adjourned sine die.

APPENDIX

REPORT OF COMMITTEE MEETING

RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Convened: Saturday, April 27, 2019, 2:20 p.m.

Members Present: Whitver, Chair; Schneider, Vice Chair; Petersen, Ranking Member; Behn, Bolkcom, Chapman, Feenstra, Jochum, Ragan, Sinclair, and R. Smith.

Members Absent: None.

Committee Business: [HCR 14](#).

Adjourned: 2:25 p.m.

AMENDMENTS FILED

S-3262	S.F. 638	House
S-3263	H.F. 766	House

REMARKS BY THE MAJORITY LEADER

Senator Whitver provided the following remarks:

Mister President, Senator Petersen and colleagues in the Senate,

I will start by expressing my gratitude to the staff and senators in this building for all the work they have done this session. It is a privilege to lead such a dynamic and unified caucus. Every day I have the distinct honor of being a part of a caucus full of leaders with bold, fresh ideas for our state. Even with all our differences, our caucus remains committed to each other as a team.

It is hard to believe the 2019 session is drawing to a close. Just 103 short days ago, I asked you all to keep in mind the reason you ran for office. I ran for office to make our state and country a better place for my kids and our family—a place where they can grow up, go to school, succeed in a career they enjoy and spend a lifetime in a place we all love and are proud to call home...Iowa.

When we began the 2019 Legislative Session I urged my colleagues in this body to be bold, challenge the status quo and enact meaningful policies that serve as a roadmap for the next generation to flourish for decades to come. I urged us to maintain the reform-minded perspective of the first two years in the majority. Together we set an agenda to strengthen and grow our economy, while allowing Iowans to keep more of their hard-earned money.

To implement that agenda, we did not want to just make small changes to a couple lines in an Iowa Code book; instead, we focused on generational changes to bring more prosperity, growth and opportunity to our state.

These policies are already yielding an abundance of positive results. We rank as one of the top states for jobs, high school graduation and concurrent enrollment. Our unemployment rate is among the lowest in the country. Last year, Iowa was rated the Number One state in America by US News and World Report. Achieving that top ranking is not easy—but staying there is even more challenging.

This year, we provided an additional \$89 million in sustainable funding for our K-12 schools, and extended the sales tax dedicated to help support their infrastructure costs. We passed four welfare reform bills to make those programs run more effectively and efficiently. These bills help ensure assistance is only for those truly in need, encourages people to join the workforce, and could save taxpayers millions of dollars. We passed a bill to protect Iowa businesses and workers, and promote better hiring practices through the use of E-Verify. We created a children's mental health system in our state. We passed legislation to allow our state's farmers to grow another crop and another to level the playing field for utility customers. We passed a bill to protect Iowa's agriculture industry, and a bill to protect the First Amendment rights of students at our public universities.

We proposed a budget that was conservative, responsible and sustainable. It funded the necessities of our state, like education and public safety, and provided the state a cushion to respond to the massive flooding in western Iowa. Responsible budgeting always has been important to this caucus, just as it is important to every hard-working person in our state.

One of the number one concerns we heard when talking with Iowans over the last couple years was property taxes. And, they have reason to be concerned. Property tax collections have more than doubled in the last 18 years. These increases exceed more than \$3 billion across Iowa. Meanwhile, during that same time frame, Iowans incomes have risen only 43 percent.

After passing income tax relief for Iowa's hard-working families during the last Legislative Session, this year we passed property tax reform, to control increases for those who have seen their assessments rise year after year, improve transparency, and hold public officials accountable for any increase in property taxes.

Our work doesn't stop when we leave this building. There are many issues we can work on next year and continue to forge a path to help grow our economy, retain young graduates and attract new Iowans to call our state home.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for another outstanding session and for all the work we accomplished. Thank you for the thoughtful debate and discussion and the work you do on behalf of your constituents and our great state. We made a lot of progress this year for Iowa and Iowans, and I look forward to working with all of you next January as we continue this journey toward long-term prosperity.

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Senators, guests and fellow Iowans:

I would first like to say it was a great honor to serve again as President of the Senate. I appreciate the trust my colleagues placed in me. I returned it by always doing my best to fulfill the responsibilities of the role to which you elected me.

My goal this session, and every session since I was elected to the Senate, was to make Iowa the best state in the country to live, work, and raise a family. I believe we made progress toward this goal during the 2019 legislative session.

I am proud of the work we did to bring transparency and accountability to the process by which property taxes are determined.

Many Iowans felt their property tax burden getting worse, but could not explain why it was happening. Our convoluted property tax system made it difficult for property owners to hold the right people accountable.

We believe the key to holding down property taxes is to bring more accountability to local budgeting processes. The bill passed by the Legislature will hold down budget expansions in cities and counties that had been on autopilot thanks to rising valuations, while allowing local leaders in growing communities to provide critical services to their constituents.

As a result, Iowans should expect to see the amount they pay in property taxes more closely align to local government budgets than their property valuations. This bill will remove what amounts to a government-imposed penalty on an appreciating asset regardless of the taxpayer's ability to pay.

The property tax reform bill will shine a spotlight on city and county budget processes, while still allowing local government officials to make choices that make sense for their communities. As a former West Des Moines City Council member and a Senator who represents some of the fastest growing communities in our state, I understand these local leaders need the flexibility to grow their physical infrastructure and staff resources to keep up with their changing jurisdictions. I am proud this bill will allow well-managed, fast-growing cities, like those in my Senate district, to continue to make smart choices for their futures.

While many outside this chamber focus on the issues that divide us, I am proud the Senate was able to come together on a number of key issues facing our state.

For me, the children's mental health bill we passed this session will be a legacy item. This bill demonstrates that the Legislature understands there is a children's mental health crisis in our state. Unfortunately, this problem is not specific to our state. But, I believe the provisions in the children's mental health bill position our state to be a leader on this issue. I hope the solutions that result from this legislation will be a model for other states to follow.

I am also proud of the lower-profile issues the Senate came together this year to address. Every session, Iowans from around the state petition their government to resolve issues in their day-to-day life. Though many of these issues do not make the front page of the newspapers, they are important to people in our state and I am proud of our work on them.

While we made important progress this session on a number of key issues, there is still work for us left to do during this General Assembly.

Businesses throughout the state are still experiencing a serious skilled worker shortage. We hear this shortage is already stifling economic growth in our state. While I am proud we supported the governor's Future Ready Iowa initiative this session, there is still more work to do.

There also continues to be too many barriers to success in our state. Unnecessary occupational licensing requirements threaten to limit opportunities for Iowans to pursue their dreams. Iowa has one of the most heavily licensed workforces in the country. States like Arizona have made important strides to rebalance protecting the public with reducing barriers to economic opportunity. I believe policymakers in Iowa should have a serious conversation next session about this issue.

I would like to wish everyone a safe, healthy and prosperous summer. Thank you for your hard work on behalf of your constituents and our state. God bless you and your families. And, God bless the great state of Iowa.

REMARKS BY THE MINORITY LEADER

Senator Petersen provided the following remarks:

Thank you, Mr. President.

As we wind down the 2019 Legislative session, I want to thank my Democratic colleagues for the honor of serving as your Leader. It is an honor leading a team of senators who care deeply about our state and the Iowans we serve.

I want to give a special "thank you" to the new members of our caucus: Senators Claire Celsi, Eric Giddens, Jackie Smith, Todd Taylor and Zach Wahls. They have all brought new enthusiasm and ideas to the Iowa Senate and we're all grateful for their service.

Thank you to our dedicated caucus staff and leadership team who put in countless hours and have their fingerprints on every piece of legislation that runs through this chamber. We are fortunate to have such smart, caring and talented people working for us, and more importantly, working for Iowans. A special thanks to the Republican caucus staff and leadership team as well.

Thank you to the Secretary of the Senate, your staff, and the Senate pages who keep this chamber running smoothly.

Thank you to everyone at the Legislative Services Agency, to our joint legislative employees, and the Legislative Ombudsman's Office for your putting your gifts to work on behalf of Iowans.

Let's give them all a round of applause!

Mr. President, Mr. Majority Leader, Senate colleagues, and to all the Iowans we serve: On the opening day of the 2019 Legislative Session, I talked about how the Iowa Senate has called this chamber home for more than 130 years.

The laws and budgets we pass or don't pass have the ability to impact the lives of every Generation living in our state today – and Generations who will be sitting in our chairs long after we are gone.

This session we did some good things for the people of this state.

One of the most significant pieces of legislation we passed was the guardianship bill, a cause championed by Josie Gitler of Iowa City and so many others who worked with her. That bill will help protect hundreds of lives.

We passed the Iowa CARE Act, and established a governance structure for a children's mental health system in our state.

We finally passed a bill opening the door to hemp production in Iowa.

There were missed opportunities as well.

Once again, we saw Republicans "fixing" things that weren't broken instead of fixing things that are broken...

Iowans want strong public schools. Instead of fully funding our public schools, we saw Republicans push for private school vouchers that would take resources away from thousands of Iowa's children.

Iowans want legislators to work on initiatives to prevent crime; deal with substance abuse and mental health problems; make our neighborhoods, workplaces and schools safer; and reduce racial disparities in our criminal system. Instead of tackling many of those issues, we saw a bill to completely revamp Iowa's highly respected judicial nominating system to **politicize Iowa's courts**.

Iowans are innovative and making great strides in **solar, wind and other renewable** energy areas. Instead of supporting those efforts, Senate Republicans passed a bill that would give government-supported monopolies the power to squelch Iowa's growing solar industry. They also put further restrictions on energy efficiency programs for homes and businesses. Democrats believe we should be working together on renewable energy policies that help our entire state thrive.

Instead of focusing on health prevention and wellness efforts, our state is still reeling from the Governor's privatized Medicaid mess that has gone on for more than three years. More than 425,000 Iowans and hundreds of health care providers will soon find themselves navigating through a web of red tape of yet another for-profit Managed Care Organization. Democrats believe health care dollars should be going to health care, not helping out-of-state, for-profit companies with their bottom line.

Democrats pushed for automatic voter registration and improved cyber security oversight for elections. Instead of expanding voter rights in Iowa, we saw Senator Roby Smith and his Republican colleagues push for more voter suppression legislation that would have made it harder to vote for Iowa college kids, veterans, and those who don't work a 9 to 5 job.

Speaking of elections, it's a real shame that Senate Republicans dropped the ball on a proposal by Governor Reynolds to restore voting rights to felons who have served their time. The Governor's proposal was approved on 95-2 vote in the House nearly a month ago and clearly had bipartisan support in the Iowa Senate. There's no excuse for Senate Republicans turning their backs on Iowans who deserve a second chance.

Iowa lost another eight labor and delivery departments last year and our state's maternal mortality rate has more than doubled in less than three years. Yet, several maternal and reproductive health care bills Democrats proposed did not get taken up. The Governor did not get her pharmacy access to birth control bill through the legislature nor did the Republicans restore access to health care providers again for the thousands of women who were banned seeing many of Iowans most highly qualified

providers in 2017. And in the final hours of the session, Republicans voted for anti-Planned Parenthood legislation that will actually lead to more abortions in our state, not fewer. That's shameful!

It's also shameful that legislative Republicans decided at the 11th hour of this session to take away the civil rights of Iowans who are already marginalized in our society. Democrats believe in expanding and protecting the civil rights of ALL Iowans. That is how we help our state grow.

Democrats pushed for putting more money in the pockets of Iowans with fairer tax policies, better job and apprenticeship opportunities, and decent wage and benefit policies for Iowans who work hard every day to support themselves and the people they love. Senate Republicans pushed for more red tape and hurdles for Iowa families struggling to make ends meet.

Children and adult survivors of child sexual abuse also lost again this session. A bill that would finally give survivors a chance to seek justice against their perpetrators and the organizations that covered up the crime were kept in a desk drawer and only a small window of time was added to the criminal statute of limitation for child sexual abuse.

While I am disappointed, that we did not accomplish more good things for Iowans in 2019, I am hopeful we can work together to make bigger strides next session.

I truly believe there are more things that unite us than divide us and we must continue looking for ways to work together to make Iowa a state we can proud to call home.

Thank you Iowans for making your voices heard this session.