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**STATE OF IOWA**

**Senate Journal**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2016**

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# JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

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ONE HUNDRED TENTH CALENDAR DAY  
SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION DAY

Senate Chamber  
Des Moines, Iowa, Friday, April 29, 2016

The Senate met in regular session at 10:07 a.m., President Jochum presiding.

A moment of silence was observed by the Senate.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Jochum.

The Journal of Thursday, April 28, 2016, was approved.

## LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Leaves of absence were granted as follows:

Senators Chelgren, Kraayenbrink, and Schultz, until they arrive, on request of Senator Dix.

## RECESS

On motion of Senator Sodders, the Senate recessed at 10:09 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

## RECONVENED

The Senate reconvened at 1:10 p.m., President Jochum presiding.

## LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Leaves of absence were granted as follows:

Senators Behn, Bertrand, and Feenstra, until they arrive, on request of Senator Dix.

## HOUSE AMENDMENT CONSIDERED

[Senate File 492](#)

Senator Dotzler called up for consideration [Senate File 492](#), a bill for an act creating a disaster case management grant fund and program, amended by the House in House amendment [S-5181](#), filed April 28, 2016.

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

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

Senator Ragan 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. 492](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 44:

Allen	Dearden	Johnson	Segebart
Anderson	Dix	Kapucian	Seng
Bisignano	Dotzler	Kinney	Shipley
Bolkcom	Dvorsky	Mathis	Sinclair
Bowman	Garrett	McCoy	Smith
Brase	Gronstal	Petersen	Sodders
Breitbach	Guth	Quirnbach	Taylor
Chapman	Hart	Ragan	Whitver
Costello	Hogg	Rozenboom	Wilhelm
Courtney	Horn	Schneider	Zaun
Danielson	Jochum	Schoenjahn	Zumbach

Nays, none.

Absent, 6:

Behn	Chelgren	Kraayenbrink
Bertrand	Feenstra	Schultz

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

## IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Dotzler asked and received unanimous consent that [Senate File 492](#) be **immediately messaged** to the House.

The Senate stood at ease at 1:18 p.m. until the fall of the gavel for the purpose of party caucuses.

The Senate resumed session at 2:08 p.m., President Jochum presiding.

## RECESS

On motion of Senator McCoy, the Senate recessed at 2:09 p.m. until the completion of a meeting of the committee on Ways and Means.

## RECONVENED

The Senate reconvened at 3:50 p.m., President Jochum presiding.

## FINAL COMMITTEE REPORT OF BILL ACTION

## WAYS AND MEANS

**Bill Title:** [HOUSE FILE 2456](#), a bill for an act relating to county levy authority for mental health and disability services funding.

**Recommendation:** DO PASS.

**Final Vote:** Ayes, 12: Bolkcom, Allen, Anderson, Breitbach, Dotzler, Hogg, Jochum, McCoy, Petersen, Quirnbach, Seng, and Smith. Nays, none. Absent, 3: Feenstra, Behn, and Schultz.

**Fiscal Note:** NOT REQUIRED UNDER JOINT RULE 17.

CONSIDERATION OF BILL  
(Ways and Means Calendar)

Senator Gronstal asked and received unanimous consent to take up for consideration [House File 2456](#).

[House File 2456](#)

On motion of Senator Bolkcom, [House File 2456](#), a bill for an act relating to county levy authority for mental health and disability services funding, with report of committee recommending passage, was taken up for consideration.

Senator Bolkcom 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. 2456](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 45:

Allen	Dearden	Kapucian	Shiple
Anderson	Dix	Kinney	Sinclair
Behn	Dotzler	Mathis	Smith
Bisignano	Dvorsky	McCoy	Sodders
Bolkcom	Garrett	Petersen	Taylor
Bowman	Gronstal	Quirnbach	Whitver
Brase	Guth	Ragan	Wilhelm
Breitbach	Hart	Rozenboom	Zaun
Chapman	Hogg	Schneider	Zumbach
Costello	Horn	Schoenjahn	
Courtney	Jochum	Segebart	
Danielson	Johnson	Seng	

Nays, none.

Absent, 5:

Bertrand	Feenstra	Schultz
Chelgren	Kraayenbrink	

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

#### CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT RECEIVED

#### [Senate File 2320](#)

A conference committee report, signed by the following Senate and House members, was filed April 29, 2016, on [Senate File 2320](#), a bill for an act relating to transportation and other infrastructure-related appropriations to the department of transportation, including allocation and use of moneys from the road use tax fund, the primary road fund, the state aviation fund, and the federal surface transportation block grant program:

On the part of the Senate:

MATT MCCOY, Chair  
TOD R. BOWMAN  
JANET PETERSEN

On the part of the House:

DAN HUSEMAN, Chair  
STEVE HOLT  
GUY VANDER LINDEN

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT CONSIDERED

**Senate File 2320**

Senator Gronstal called up the conference committee report on [Senate File 2320](#), a bill for an act relating to transportation and other infrastructure-related appropriations to the department of transportation, including allocation and use of moneys from the road use tax fund, the primary road fund, the state aviation fund, and the federal surface transportation block grant program, filed on April 29, 2016, and moved its adoption.

The motion prevailed by a voice vote; and the conference committee report, and the recommendations and amendments contained therein, was adopted.

Senator McCoy 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?" ([S.F. 2320](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 26:

Allen	Dearden	Jochum	Schoenjahn
Bisignano	Dotzler	Kinney	Seng
Bolkcom	Dvorsky	Mathis	Sodders
Bowman	Gronstal	McCoy	Taylor
Brase	Hart	Petersen	Wilhelm
Courtney	Hogg	Quirnbach	
Danielson	Horn	Ragan	

Nays, 19:

Anderson	Dix	Rozenboom	Smith
Behn	Garrett	Schneider	Whitver
Breitbach	Guth	Segebart	Zaun
Chapman	Johnson	Shipley	Zumbach
Costello	Kapucian	Sinclair	

Absent, 5:

Bertrand	Feenstra	Schultz
Chelgren	Kraayenbrink	

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

## IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Gronstal asked and received unanimous consent that [Senate File 2320](#) and [House File 2456](#) be **immediately messaged** to the House.

The Senate stood at ease at 4:03 p.m. until the fall of the gavel.

The Senate resumed session at 4:25 p.m., President Jochum presiding.

## HOUSE MESSAGES RECEIVED AND CONSIDERED

The following messages were received from the Chief Clerk of the House:

MADAM PRESIDENT: I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House has on April 29, 2016, **amended** the Senate amendment, **concurred** in the Senate amendment as amended, **and passed** the following bills in which the concurrence of the Senate is asked:

[House File 2458](#), a bill for an act relating to appropriations to the justice system. ([S-5186](#))

[House File 2468](#), a bill for an act relating to the administration of the tax and related laws by the department of revenue, including the renewable energy tax credit, the solar energy system tax credit, appeal procedures for certain centrally assessed property, an extension of the utility replacement tax task force, requiring background checks for job applicants and persons performing work for the department of revenue, a sales and use tax exemption for certain items used in performance of a construction contract with designated exempt entities, and including effective date and retroactive and other applicability provisions. ([S-5187](#))

HOUSE AMENDMENT TO  
SENATE AMENDMENT CONSIDERED[House File 2458](#)

Senator Gronstal called up for consideration [House File 2458](#), a bill for an act relating to appropriations to the justice system, amended by the Senate and further amended by the House in House amendment [S-5186](#) to Senate amendment [H-8276](#), filed April 29, 2016.

Senator Courtney 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 Courtney 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.

On the question "Shall the bill pass?" ([H.F. 2458](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 26:

Allen	Dearden	Jochum	Schoenjahn
Bisignano	Dotzler	Kinney	Seng
Bolkcom	Dvorsky	Mathis	Sodders
Bowman	Gronstal	McCoy	Taylor
Brase	Hart	Petersen	Wilhelm
Courtney	Hogg	Quirnbach	
Danielson	Horn	Ragan	

Nays, 19:

Anderson	Dix	Rozenboom	Smith
Behn	Garrett	Schneider	Whitver
Breitbach	Guth	Segebart	Zaun
Chapman	Johnson	Shipley	Zumbach
Costello	Kapucian	Sinclair	

Absent, 5:

Bertrand	Feenstra	Schultz
Chelgren	Kraayenbrink	

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

HOUSE AMENDMENT TO  
SENATE AMENDMENT CONSIDERED

[House File 2468](#)

Senator Gronstal called up for consideration [House File 2468](#), a bill for an act relating to the administration of the tax and related laws by the department of revenue, including the renewable energy



tax credit, the solar energy system tax credit, appeal procedures for certain centrally assessed property, an extension of the utility replacement tax task force, requiring background checks for job applicants and persons performing work for the department of revenue, a sales and use tax exemption for certain items used in performance of a construction contract with designated exempt entities, and including effective date and retroactive and other applicability provisions, amended by the Senate and further amended by the House in House amendment [S-5187](#) to Senate amendment [H-8307](#), filed April 29, 2016.

Senator Bolkcom 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 Bolkcom 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.

On the question “Shall the bill pass?” ([H.F. 2468](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 45:

Allen	Dearden	Kapucian	ShIPLEY
Anderson	Dix	Kinney	SINCLAIR
Behn	Dotzler	Mathis	SMITH
Bisignano	Dvorsky	McCoy	SODDERS
Bolkcom	Garrett	Petersen	Taylor
Bowman	Gronstal	Quirnbach	Whitver
Brase	Guth	Ragan	Wilhelm
Breitbach	Hart	Rozenboom	Zaun
Chapman	Hogg	Schneider	Zumbach
Costello	Horn	Schoenjahn	
Courtney	Jochum	Segebart	
Danielson	Johnson	Seng	

Nays, none.

Absent, 5:

Bertrand	Feenstra	Schultz
Chelgren	Kraayenbrink	

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

#### IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Gronstal asked and received unanimous consent that **House Files 2458** and **2468** be **immediately messaged** to the House.

The Senate stood at ease at 4:35 p.m. until the fall of the gavel.

The Senate resumed session at 5:05 p.m., President Jochum presiding.

#### HOUSE MESSAGE RECEIVED AND CONSIDERED

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

MADAM PRESIDENT: I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House has on April 29, 2016, **adopted** the conference committee report **and passed** [House File 2460](#), a bill for an act relating to appropriations for health and human services and veterans and including other related provisions and appropriations, and including effective date and retroactive and other applicability provisions.

#### CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT RECEIVED

#### [House File 2460](#)

A conference committee report, signed by the following Senate and House members, was filed April 29, 2016, on [House File 2460](#), a bill for an act relating to appropriations for health and human services and veterans and including other related provisions and appropriations, and including effective date and retroactive and other applicability provisions:

On the part of the Senate:

AMANDA RAGAN, Chair  
JOE BOLKCOM  
ROBERT E. DVORSKY

On the part of the House:

DAVE HEATON, Chair  
JOEL FRY  
LINDA MILLER

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT CONSIDERED

[House File 2460](#)

Senator Ragan called up the conference committee report on [House File 2460](#), a bill for an act relating to appropriations for health and human services and veterans and including other related provisions and appropriations, and including effective date and retroactive and other applicability provisions, filed on April 29, 2016, and moved its adoption.

The motion prevailed by a voice vote; and the conference committee report, and the recommendations and amendments contained therein, was adopted.

Senator Ragan 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. 2460](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 26:

Allen	Dearden	Jochum	Schoenjahn
Bisignano	Dotzler	Kinney	Seng
Bolkcom	Dvorsky	Mathis	Sodders
Bowman	Gronstal	McCoy	Taylor
Brase	Hart	Petersen	Wilhelm
Courtney	Hogg	Quirnbach	
Danielson	Horn	Ragan	

Nays, 19:

Anderson	Dix	Rozenboom	Smith
Behn	Garrett	Schneider	Whitver
Breitbach	Guth	Segebart	Zaun
Chapman	Johnson	Shipley	Zumbach
Costello	Kapucian	Sinclair	

Absent, 5:

Bertrand	Feenstra	Schultz
Chelgren	Kraayenbrink	

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

## IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Gronstal asked and received unanimous consent that [House File 2460](#) be **immediately messaged** to the House.

## MOTION TO RECONSIDER ADOPTED

Senator Dvorsky called up the motion to reconsider [Senate File 2109](#), filed by him on April 28, 2016, found on page 816 of the Senate Journal and moved its adoption.

On the question “Shall the motion to reconsider be adopted?” ([S.F. 2109](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 45:

Allen	Dearden	Kapucian	Shipley
Anderson	Dix	Kinney	Sinclair
Behn	Dotzler	Mathis	Smith
Bisignano	Dvorsky	McCoy	Sodders
Bolkcom	Garrett	Petersen	Taylor
Bowman	Gronstal	Quirnbach	Whitver
Brase	Guth	Ragan	Wilhelm
Breitbach	Hart	Rozenboom	Zaun
Chapman	Hogg	Schneider	Zumbach
Costello	Horn	Schoenjahn	
Courtney	Jochum	Segebart	
Danielson	Johnson	Seng	

Nays, none.

Absent, 5:

Bertrand	Feenstra	Schultz
Chelgren	Kraayenbrink	

The motion prevailed and [Senate File 2109](#) was taken up for reconsideration.

Senator Gronstal called up the motion to reconsider the vote by which amendment [S-5107](#) to [Senate File 2109](#) was adopted by the Senate on April 28, 2016, filed by him from the floor, and moved its adoption.

The motion prevailed by a voice vote and amendment [S-5107](#), by the House to pages 1, 3, 4, and the title page of the bill, was taken up for reconsideration.

Senator Gronstal offered amendment [S-5188](#), filed by him from the floor to page 1 of amendment [S-5107](#), and moved its adoption.

Amendment [S-5188](#) to amendment [S-5107](#) was adopted by a voice vote.

Senator Dvorsky moved the adoption of amendment [S-5107](#), as amended.

Amendment [S-5107](#), as amended, was adopted by a voice vote.

Senator Dvorsky 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?” ([S.F. 2109](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 26:

Allen	Dearden	Jochum	Schoenjahn
Bisignano	Dotzler	Kinney	Seng
Bolkcom	Dvorsky	Mathis	Sodders
Bowman	Gronstal	McCoy	Taylor
Brase	Hart	Petersen	Wilhelm
Courtney	Hogg	Quirnbach	
Danielson	Horn	Ragan	

Nays, 19:

Anderson	Dix	Rozenboom	Smith
Behn	Garrett	Schneider	Whitver
Breitbach	Guth	Segebart	Zaun
Chapman	Johnson	Shipley	Zumbach
Costello	Kapucian	Sinclair	

Absent, 5:

Bertrand	Feenstra	Schultz
Chelgren	Kraayenbrink	

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

## IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Gronstal asked and received unanimous consent that [Senate File 2109](#) be **immediately messaged** to the House.

The Senate stood at ease at 5:16 p.m. until the fall of the gavel.

The Senate resumed session at 5:30 p.m., President Jochum presiding.

## RECESS

On motion of Senator Gronstal, the Senate recessed at 5:46 p.m. until the completion of a meeting of the committee on Rules and Administration.

## RECONVENED

The Senate reconvened at 6:01 p.m., President Jochum presiding.

## HOUSE MESSAGES RECEIVED AND CONSIDERED

The following messages were received from the Chief Clerk of the House:

MADAM PRESIDENT: I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House has on April 29, 2016, **adopted** the conference committee report **and passed** [Senate File 2320](#), a bill for an act relating to transportation and other infrastructure-related appropriations to the department of transportation, including allocation and use of moneys from the road use tax fund, the primary road fund, the state aviation fund, and the federal surface transportation block grant program.

ALSO: That the House has on April 29, 2016, **adopted** the conference committee report **and passed** [House File 2459](#), a bill for an act relating to state and local finances by making appropriations, providing for legal responsibilities, providing for other properly related matters, and including effective date provisions.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT RECEIVED

[House File 2459](#)

A conference committee report, signed by the following Senate and House members, was filed April 29, 2016, on [House File 2459](#), a bill for an act relating to state and local finances by making appropriations, providing for legal responsibilities, providing for other properly related matters, and including effective date provisions:

On the part of the Senate:

ROBERT E. DVORSKY, Chair  
MICHAEL E. GRONSTAL  
PAM JOCHUM

On the part of the House:

PAT GRASSLEY, Chair  
CHRIS HAGENOW  
LINDA UPMEYER

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT CONSIDERED

[House File 2459](#)

Senator Gronstal called up the conference committee report on [House File 2459](#), a bill for an act relating to state and local finances by making appropriations, providing for legal responsibilities, providing for other properly related matters, and including effective date provisions, filed on April 29, 2016, and moved its adoption.

The motion prevailed by a voice vote; and the conference committee report, and the recommendations and amendments contained therein, was adopted.

Senator Dvorsky 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. 2459](#)), the vote was:

Yeas, 26:

Allen	Dearden	Jochum	Schoenjahn
Bisignano	Dotzler	Kinney	Seng
Bolkcom	Dvorsky	Mathis	Sodders
Bowman	Gronstal	McCoy	Taylor
Brase	Hart	Petersen	Wilhelm
Courtney	Hogg	Quirnbach	
Danielson	Horn	Ragan	

Nays, 19:

Anderson	Dix	Rozenboom	Smith
Behn	Garrett	Schneider	Whitver
Breitbach	Guth	Segebart	Zaun
Chapman	Johnson	Shipley	Zumbach
Costello	Kapucian	Sinclair	

Absent, 5:

Bertrand	Feenstra	Schultz
Chelgren	Kraayenbrink	

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

#### IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Gronstal asked and received unanimous consent that [House File 2459](#) be **immediately messaged** to the House.

#### INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION

[Senate Concurrent Resolution 101](#), by Rules and Administration, a concurrent resolution to provide for adjournment sine die.

Read first time under Rule 28 and **placed on calendar**.

#### CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION (Regular Calendar)

Senator Gronstal asked and received unanimous consent to take up for consideration [Senate Concurrent Resolution 101](#).

#### [Senate Concurrent Resolution 101](#)

On motion of Senator Gronstal, [Senate Concurrent Resolution 101](#), a concurrent resolution to provide for adjournment sine die, was taken up for consideration.

Senator Gronstal moved the adoption of [Senate Concurrent Resolution 101](#), which motion prevailed by a voice vote.



## IMMEDIATELY MESSAGED

Senator Gronstal asked and received unanimous consent that [Senate Concurrent Resolution 101](#) be **immediately messaged** to the House.

## FINAL ADJOURNMENT

By virtue of [Senate Concurrent Resolution 101](#), duly adopted, the day of April 29, 2016, having arrived, President Jochum declared the 2016 Regular Session of the Eighty-sixth General Assembly adjourned sine die.

## APPENDIX

## HOUSE MESSAGES RECEIVED

The following messages were received from the Chief Clerk of the House:

MADAM PRESIDENT: I am directed to inform your honorable body that the House has on April 29, 2016, **concurred** in the Senate amendment to the House amendment **and passed** the following bill in which the concurrence of the House was asked:

[Senate File 2109](#), a bill for an act relating to financial and regulatory matters by supplementing appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, making standing appropriations, and including effective date provisions.

ALSO: That the House has on April 29, 2016, **adopted** the following resolution in which the concurrence of the House was asked:

[Senate Concurrent Resolution 101](#), a concurrent resolution to provide for adjournment sine die.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE MEETING

## WAYS AND MEANS

**Convened:** Friday, April 29, 2016, 2:10 p.m.

**Members Present:** Bolkcom, Chair; Allen, Vice Chair; Anderson, Breitbach, Dotzler, Hogg, Jochum, McCoy, Petersen, Quirnbach, Seng, and Smith.

**Members Absent:** Feenstra, Ranking Member; Behn, and Schultz (all excused).

**Committee Business:** Passed [HF 2456](#).

**Adjourned:** 2:15 p.m.

#### AMENDMENTS FILED

<a href="#">S-5186</a>	<a href="#">H.F. 2458</a>	House
<a href="#">S-5187</a>	<a href="#">H.F. 2468</a>	House
<a href="#">S-5188</a>	<a href="#">S.F. 2109</a>	Michael E. Gronstal

#### REMARKS BY THE MAJORITY LEADER

Senator Gronstal provided the following remarks:

When the session began, I said that our focus must be “bringing more workers and their families into Iowa’s middle class.”

The two steps I suggested to help accomplish that goal were 1) expanding educational opportunities and 2) strengthening the Medicaid health care safety net.

I warned that “We must break the pattern of the last few years when the Governor and Iowa House leaders successfully insisted on inadequate funding for our local schools.”

In short, I said we needed to do better.

The best you can say about local school funding this year is that the decision was made in a more timely fashion.

It was closer to being on time but not nearly close enough to what Iowa should be investing in our K12 schools.

Iowans of all ages prepare themselves for the jobs of today at our community colleges, universities and private colleges. This session increased our support for these institutions, slightly.

In January, with regard to Governor Branstad’s Medicaid privatization mess, I noted that “Everyone in this chamber has talked with constituents whose family health care costs would bankrupt the financial resources of 99% of all Iowa families. Rather than dismissing their well-founded concerns, we should listen and take action.”

That was in January. Today, it is still obvious to most Iowans that our Medicaid safety net is still in disarray.

During this session—with bipartisan support—the Iowa Senate approved strong Medicaid oversight protection. Unfortunately, that legislation was largely rejected by the Iowa House.

Suffering Iowa families now have the additional burden of fixing problems created by the same private companies guaranteed hundreds of millions in administrative fees, far more than when Medicaid was administered by state employees.

Iowa health care providers now bear the additional costs of dealing with three different billing systems and conflicting approaches to treatment. That’s why many Iowa communities are now worse off in terms of access to health care.

Despite the Senate’s best work, the effort to bring more workers and their families into Iowa’s middle class by expanding educational opportunities and strengthening the Medicaid health care safety net fell short of what Iowa families need and deserved.

Let’s hope the next Legislature will do better!

## REMARKS BY THE MINORITY LEADER

Senator Dix provided the following remarks:

Thank you Madame President. When session began this year I commented on the need for state government to be fiscally prudent and instill the kind of fiscal discipline into the state budget that Iowa families put into their own budgets. Now, nearly five months later, it is time to evaluate the results of this session.

Budgeting is simply a matter of revenues and expenditures. For the State of Iowa, revenues have been strong during the last four years. Revenues grew by nearly \$589 million from FY13 to the estimates for FY 17. Unfortunately, for Iowa taxpayers, expenditures increased by nearly \$1 billion during that same time period. When the state closed its books at the end of FY 13, the ending balance was \$927 million. With the passage of this year's appropriation bills, the ending balance projects to be approximately \$80 million. The data regarding the state budget is clear; Iowa government does not have a revenue problem. It has a spending problem.

Iowa families know that they cannot spend more than they take in for very long. Ultimately, that credit card bill comes due. As I just illustrated the state budget has been growing at a pace that exceeds revenue. Sadly, this behavior isn't limited to just the general fund. For years the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund budget has been raided for all sorts of projects. Now, the state's existing vertical infrastructure cannot be maintained because, between the ill-fated I-Jobs program and other bonding commitments, the first \$70 million per year is already committed to bond repayments.

So, what do some in this body propose? This headline from last week in the Cedar Rapids Gazette summarizes it well: "Senate Includes Borrowing in Infrastructure Budget." According to the article the proposal would further indebt Iowa for \$110 million. The disease is overspending and according to some the cure is...more spending!

My colleagues and I are concerned about spending growth for the simple reason that when government grows, the private sector shrinks. When the private sector shrinks, opportunity for young Iowans either disappears, or it moves to Kansas City, Austin, or Indianapolis.

I believe Iowa has all the necessary ingredients for a period of dynamic economic growth. I am optimistic when I think about Iowa's future and the possibilities young Iowans have in front of them. Iowa has some of the most productive farm land in the world, a citizenry that is hard-working and engaged, and, of course, only the finest bacon.

Opportunities to invest and succeed are important and when this body throws up barriers to growth, whether that is excessive regulation or excessive taxation, we only hurt our own children and grandchildren. Senate Republicans advocate for policies that encourage economic growth, that remove barriers that inhibit growth and that incentivize work and investment. The more government gets out of the way, and the more of their own money Iowans keep, the more Iowa's economy will grow.

As some of you know my oldest son is graduating from high school next month. I want Iowa to be a viable option for his future because career opportunities are available. We need to leave a legacy of opportunity for every Iowan!

Let's make it happen!

## REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

President Jochum provided the following remarks:

In my opening remarks for the 2016 General Assembly, I posed a challenge to craft a fiscally responsible budget that was fair to all Iowans and that would help build an economy that works for everyone. As the late U.S. Senator Paul Wellstone said, “We all do better, when we all do better.”

Although Iowa’s workers outperform the national average on productivity, their wages remain twenty-three percent below the national average. Furthermore, over 100,000 Iowa children live in poverty and one-in-five Iowa children are food insecure. Too many Iowans are still left behind and those impacted the most are our children—Iowa’s future. So, crafting a budget that was responsive to the needs of Iowans and that paved a pathway to a more prosperous future for all Iowans was critical. That’s why in my opening remarks I called for a “new war on poverty and income inequality.” We cannot cut our way to prosperity. We must out-educate, out innovate, and out-build the world. We must invest in our children’s education and provide opportunities for any Iowan who wants to improve or acquire new skills that will improve their financial well-being. Education is the engine that moves us forward.

As difficult as this budget was to craft, we were able to take steps forward to close the poverty gap and provide opportunity for Iowa’s working families by:

- Boosting education dollars to our K-12 schools through investments in early reading initiatives and quality teaching.
- Investing in education funding for our universities, community colleges, and grants for students attending private colleges.
- Investing more than \$40 million in apprenticeship training and job retraining at our community colleges.
- Expanding the First Five program for our youngest children.
- Spurring Iowa’s economy by attracting more visitors and tourism, as well as young professionals and families to live, to work, and to play in Iowa.
- Providing safeguards for the most vulnerable Iowans through comprehensive legislative oversight of Governor Branstad’s and Lt. Governor Reynolds’ plan to privatize Iowa’s public health insurance program—Medicaid. Holding the out of state, for-profit managed care organizations accountable to the taxpayers, to our local providers and to our citizens who rely on this program for their health security is critically important and one of our duties as legislators.
- Investing in renewable sources of energy such as solar, wind, geo-thermal, and biofuels.

While this session made progress on a number of fronts, there were missed opportunities passed by the Senate—many with bipartisan support—that the House Republican leaders failed to consider, including:

- Raising the minimum wage. The Senate passed a modest increase raising the minimum wage to \$8.75. This would have given 181,000 Iowans, most of whom are women and children, a lift out of poverty. Twenty-nine states have passed a minimum wage higher than the federal limit. Five of those states share a border with Iowa.
- Expanding the statewide pre-school program for all four-year old children.
- Expanding high quality, affordable childcare for Iowa’s families.
- Equal Pay for Equal Work.

Iowa faces many challenges that need to be addressed by future legislators. We need willing partners to work toward a meaningful, effective, sustainable solution for water quality. We need a plan to combat the increased violence in our urban centers by identifying the root causes of poverty and lack of opportunity. We need a fair tax system to help strengthen Iowa's working families, instead of giving tax breaks to wealthy out-of-state fortune 500 corporation. In short, we need an economy that works for everyone.