

## --Week 3 of the 90th General Assembly--

Dear {Contact\_First\_Name},

As predicted, once the bill to establish Educational Savings Accounts was signed by the Governor (read about it in the update from LS2), other bills started moving. As bills move through the [legislative process](#), IPHA will formally declare a position when it is a strategic use of our resources to do so. One example of this is [HF3](#) (the SNAP bill). IPHA Executive Director attended the subcommittee, stated opposition to the bill and explained to the committee how the asset test creates a cliff effect for SNAP beneficiaries. Her testimony was quoted by several news sources. Follow-up will include 1:1 meetings with legislators to further discuss how this bill impacts public health.

**Want to be involved with these conversations?** Join us at [Public Health Day on the Hill](#) on February 28th and/or [Iowa Immunizes Day on the Hill](#) on February 13th.

Here is a quick summary of the bills we have declared a position on. See the full list of bills we are watching on the IPHA bill tracker, linked below.

- [SF 45](#) - Undecided - Prohibiting the labor commissioner from implementing, enforcing, or conforming to certain federal occupational safety and health standards relating to COVID-19
  - IPHA expressed concern for impact on future disease outbreaks
- [SF 67](#) - For - Relating to Medicaid coverage of maternity care including doula care
  - Supports Medicaid coverage for doula care
- [SF 91](#) - Against - Relating to powers and duties applicable to state of disaster emergencies and public health disasters
  - Gives legislature authority over public health emergencies once declared by the Governor
  - Removes quarantine as a possible public health tool
  - HHS can only recommend drugs/vaccines under full FDA approval (i.e. prohibits Emergency Use Authorization)
- [SF 99](#) - Against - Relating to immunization information requested on a medical examiner investigation form
  - Redundant, as MEs already have access to full medical records
  - In our opinion, attempts to link infant and young child death to vaccines
- [SF 110](#) - Against - Relating to gender transition procedures
  - Prohibits providers from providing comprehensive care to transgender patients
  - Allows providers to be liable for civil damages for 30 years post-procedure
- [HF 3](#) - Against - Relating to public assistance program integrity
  - Asset testing creates a cliff effect for SNAP beneficiaries; penalized for saving money for emergency expenses, purchases or life events, saving for children's education, etc.
- [SF 83](#) - Against - Relating to gender identity in the curriculum taught to K-8 and creating a private cause of action

- Concerns for the mental health and suicide potential of children identifying as nonbinary or transgender

[Legislative Update from LS2](#) (IPHA's contract lobbyist firm, sent to all clients)

[IPHA bill tracker](#) (updated 1/27/2023)

[IPHA 2023 Policy Platform](#)

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Regardless of the formal IPHA position on a bill, we always encourage you to contact your legislators and/or the Governor's office on any issue you are passionate about. Make sure you know who your legislators are and how to contact them, check it all out on the [Find Your Legislator](#) page.

The [APHA Policy Statement Database](#) is a great place to look for literature reviews and recommended actions on a broad range of public health topics. Below are a few relevant to the bills we are watching.

#### Public Health Authority

- [Preserving Public Health Capacity by Protecting the Workforce and Authority](#)
- [Addressing Threats to Public Health Practice](#)

#### Maternal Health

- [Expanding Medicaid Coverage for Birthing People to One Year Postpartum](#)
- [A Global Call to Action to Improve Health Through Investment in Maternal Mental Health](#)

#### Gender Identity & LGBTQ Health

- [Promoting Transgender and Gender Minority Health through Inclusive Policies and Practices](#)
- [A Comprehensive Approach to Suicide Prevention within a Public Health Framework](#)
- [Sexual and Gender Minority Demographic Data: Inclusion in Medical Records, National Surveys, and Public Health Research](#)
- [Sexuality Education as Part of a Comprehensive Health Education Program in K to 12 Schools](#)

While the focus of our advocacy efforts will center upon [IPHA's 2023 Policy Platform](#), if there are bills that you would like IPHA to consider that you don't see on the list, please share those with the IPHA team. If you have questions on the positions or tactics we are taking on any piece of legislation, please contact [Lina](#), the [Advocacy Committee](#), or a member of the [Board of Directors](#).

Thanks for all you do!

Your Advocacy Committee Co-chairs,  
*Sydney Evans & Christy Roby*

## Together, we are the voice for public health in Iowa!

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