

**IOWA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**

***LEGISLATIVE UPDATE***

**February 15 - 19, 2016**

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**Legislative Funnel Week Comes to a Close**

Friday, February 19th marked the end of the 1st legislative funnel. “Funnels” are self-imposed legislative deadlines used to narrow the list of bills that each chamber can consider. In order to remain alive after the first funnel, House bills must have passed out of House committees and Senate bills must have passed out of Senate committees. Certain bills, such as tax and spending legislation, are exempt from these deadlines. Legislators will spend the week of February 22nd debating many of the bills that were passed out of committees and sending them over to the opposite chamber for consideration.

**IPOA Priorities Survive Legislative Funnel**

The IPOA has approved three proactive agenda items requiring legislation, and each was approved by the necessary legislative committee prior to the 1st funnel. These priorities include:

1. *The IPOA supports creation of a statewide weapons permit verification system.(*[*HF2314*](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ba=HF%202314&ga=86)*)*
2. *The IPOA supports legislation permitting confidentiality of law enforcement home addresses. (*[*HF2337*](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ba=HF%202337&ga=86)*)*
3. *IPOA supports legislation to increase the fee for salvage vehicle theft examinations conducted by law enforcement agencies to more closely reflect the actual costs incurred by these agencies for conducting the exam. (*[*SF2248*](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ba=SF%202248&ga=86)*/*[*HF2383*](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ba=HF%202383&ga=86)*)*

**IPOA Opposes Anti-Law Enforcement Measures**

Funnel Week produced movement on several policies that, while good intentioned, would negatively impact law enforcement. Although these bills were advanced by various committees, it is unlikely that they will be approved in their current versions. Lawmakers have indicated that significant changes will be made due to the concerns raised by law enforcement. These bills include:

*Racial Profiling*

[SF2267](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ba=SF%202267&ga=86) requires the collection and reporting of data on stops by law enforcement officers. The bill explicitly prohibits police from profiling based on race and other characteristics. It establishes training requirements and a Community Policing Advisory Board. Law enforcement officers would be required to collect specific data at each “stop” as defined by the bill and notify every person stopped of their right to file a civil rights complaint if they feel they are a victim of profiling. PASSED 8-5

*Asset Forfeiture*

[SF2262](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ba=SF%202262&ga=86) would require that a person be convicted of a felony and that the crime expressly authorize forfeiture before property can be forfeited. Additionally, the bill would require the state to prove, by clear and convincing evidence, that the property is forfeitable. Further, law enforcement or the seizing agency would not be permitted to obtain the proceeds of the forfeited property. PASSED 13-0

*Body Cams*

Various bills have been introduced that relate the use of body cameras, policies for their use, and when the information is an open record. Legislators have agreed that the issue should be reviewed during an interim study committee after the legislative session concludes. [SF2245](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ba=SF%202245&ga=86)