



# CITY OF IOWA CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

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December 9, 2025

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Resolution establishing the City of Iowa City's 2026 state legislative priorities.

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Prepared By: Kirk Lehmann, Assistant City Manager  
Reviewed By: Chris O'Brien, Deputy City Manager  
Geoff Fruin, City Manager  
Susan Dulek, First Ass't. City Attorney  
Fiscal Impact: None  
Staff Recommendation: Approval  
Attachments: [Resolution](#)

## **Executive Summary:**

Prior to the start of each State of Iowa legislative session, the City Council typically adopts state legislative priorities by formal resolution and communicates the City's positions on those issues to our elected delegation. The City's 2026 state legislative priorities are based on issues impacting the community and City Council priorities, including those reflected in their 2023-2028 Strategic Plan.

## **Background / Analysis:**

Prior to the start of each State of Iowa legislative session, the City Council typically adopts legislative priorities and communicates the City's positions on those issues to our elected delegation. The 2026 State of Iowa Legislative Session will commence on January 12, 2026. This session marks the second year of the 91st Iowa General Assembly. The City has contracted with Carney & Appleby to provide consultant and lobbying services. This contract was renewed in 2022 and will continue to be executed for the 2026 legislative session.

The 2026 state legislative priorities were developed in alignment with Iowa City's adopted Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2023 through 2028 and City Council input on priority issues. Because this is the second year of the assembly, the resolution largely reflects last year's adopted priorities which remain relevant with minor updates. As in prior years, the City's state legislative priorities also express support for the aligned legislative efforts of the University of Iowa Student Government, the Iowa League of Cities, and the Iowa Metropolitan Coalition.