



This week was filled with a lot of action as it was the first funnel week at the Capitol. This can be a very high-stakes week that often makes or breaks the outcome of a bill.

At the beginning of the session, all 150 legislators submit ideas for legislation in bill form. These ideas come from a variety of sources: constituents, interest groups, friends, and neighbors. Each year hundreds of these bills are filed, but the funnel weeks are the time to pare the number of bills from more than 500 between the House and Senate to a more manageable number.

There are two funnel weeks during each legislative session. The first funnel is important because a bill must pass both subcommittee and full committee in its originating chamber in order to stay live and continue through the legislative process. The steps of going from a subcommittee to the larger full committee are significant to the process as they allow for a multitude of discussions on the bill between the Senators, public, and stakeholders who are for, undecided, or against the bill.

After reviewing the bills that have stayed alive during funnel week, I am pleased to say that many of the priorities of the Senate Republicans have cleared the first legislative hurdle and will continue to move through the legislative process.

These are bills that reward work and investment, protect life, and eliminate burdens to economic growth. Not only have the bills survived funnel week, we've already had some priorities pass the Senate floor and even signed by the governor.

I am pleased of the progress Senate Republicans have made in the first 6 weeks. I know we will work diligently to continue advancing these priorities. I am also pleased to report on the progress on a number of the priorities Governor Reynolds proposed in her Condition of the State speech, like the Future Ready Iowa and Empower Rural Iowa initiative. We look forward to working with her and the Iowa House of Representatives to complete another successful session for Iowans.

If you have a concern about a bill or want to share your thoughts on a topic, please email me at [jack.whitver@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:jack.whitver@legis.iowa.gov) or call my office at the Capitol at 515-281-3560.

Senator Jack Whitver  
Senate District 19  
[jack.whitver@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:jack.whitver@legis.iowa.gov)

