



The Iowa Legislature

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Kapucian Attempts to Eliminate Wasteful State Spending

DES MOINES – In an attempt to eliminate wasteful government spending, Senator Tim Kapucian (R-Keystone) introduced an amendment today that would have established a premium for health insurance coverage for all state employees essentially saving Iowans an estimated \$66.4 million.

The amendment language would set the premium payment at \$100 a month for state employees who have state provided health insurance. It also asks that organizations renegotiate current bargained contracts in order to achieve a cost savings for health insurance coverage. “I don’t think it’s too much to ask that state employees pay a little something for their health insurance,” said Kapucian. “This would provide significant state savings and is an obvious area to tighten our belt.”

The original bill introduced by House Republicans saved Iowans \$500 million over three fiscal years. “Unfortunately, Senate Democrats have stripped the bill of its most fiscally responsible items,” Kapucian went on to say. “Reducing wasteful government spending is a priority of mine and this amendment is a step in the right direction to putting Iowa back on fiscally sound footing.”

Senate Republicans offered several amendments to House File 45, a de-appropriations bill that would continue to save Iowans money. The majority of amendments were voted down.

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