

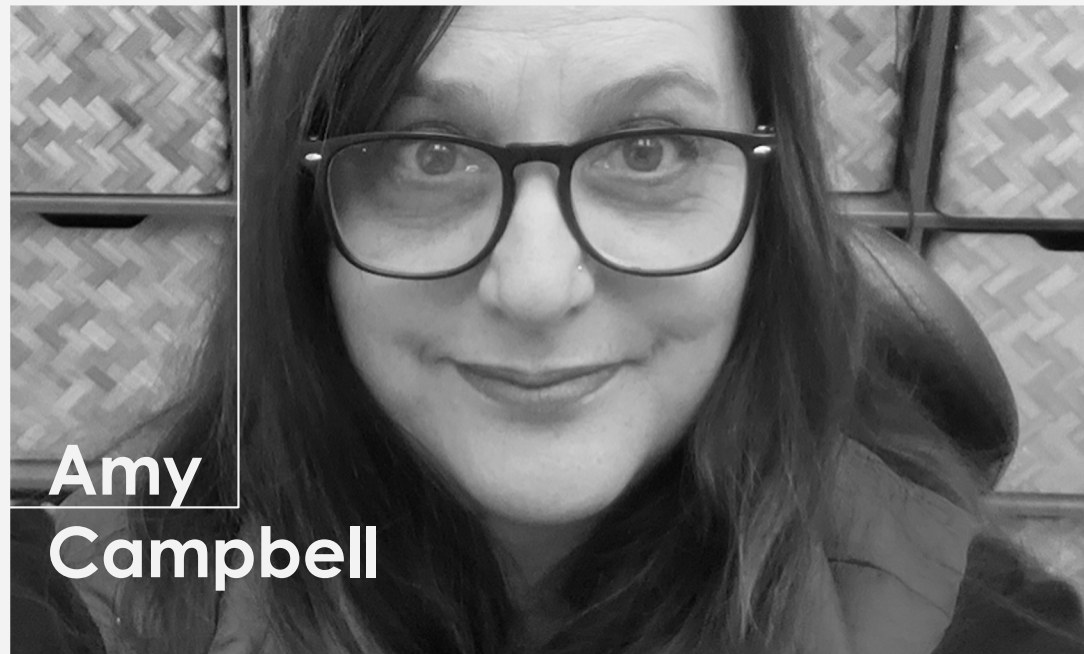
A photograph of a grand, ornate staircase in a historic building. The staircase is made of dark stone and has a wide, sweeping design. It is flanked by two large, ornate columns with statues on top. Above the staircase is a large, colorful mural depicting a scene with several figures. A chandelier with multiple lights hangs from the ceiling. The floor is made of polished stone tiles. The text "LWVIA | 2025 Session Review" is overlaid on the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

LWVIA | 2025 Session Review



The 2025 session was Amy's 33rd session.
She has represented the League at the
State Capitol since 2010 and became a
Pioneer Lawmaker in 2015.

amy@ialobby.com
515.554.5838



Lobby Team



**Craig
Patterson**

**Chloe
Gayer**



**Jessica
Seelinger**

2,300

Total number of bills
introduced in 2025 session
(excluding resolutions)



One out of every 13 bills made
it to the Governor's desk.

7%

Bills introduced that were
signed into law.
For the last 30 years, this
has averaged 10-13%.

lialobby.com/billtracker/LWVIA
lwvia.org/news/

2025 Session

Freedom of Speech:

- Created special motion for expedited relief in actions related to free speech, called the "Uniform Public Expression Law"
- Established/funded a School of Intellectual Freedom, Center for Civic Education
- Bans on accrediting agency retaliation for complying with state law

Anti-DEI, Anti-LGBTQIA+

- Local & state government ban on DEI offices, staff, initiatives
- Gender identity removed from civil rights protections
- No Medicaid reimbursement for gender affirming surgery or medical interventions (HRT)

ENACTED:

- Banned **ranked choice** voting.
- Allowed new “**unconfirmed status**” if citizenship not verified.
- Enacted **recount reforms** requested by auditors
- **Ballots** will be preserved for 22 months (vs. 6 months)
- **Major party status** requirement changed to 3% in last three elections (vs. last election)
- Four-digit **personal ID** will be used on ballots (vs. voter verification number)

FAILED:

- Time off for elections.
- Citizenship status on Driver's Licenses & State IDs.
- Making Election Day a state holiday.
- Primary voting limits to those with party for 120 days.
- Making local elections partisan.
- Voting rights restoration.



Voting

- ☒ Promote equal access
- ☒ Ensure all votes count
- ☒ Ranked choice voting
- ☒ Voting Restoration
- ☒ Automatic Registration
- ☒ End Electoral College

ENACTED:

- Minor changes to **open meetings/public records** laws (increased penalties, training)
- Keeps information obtained from **legislative security cameras** and state employee ID card access confidential (no FOIA)

FAILED:

- Allowing public **referendums**
- Automatic **resignation** of Member of Congress if budget fails to pass by October 31
- Doubling of state legislator **salaries** (and statewide officials)
- No **renumbering** of legislative bills
- Prompt responses to **public record** requests
- More time to file complaints with **public information board**



Transparency & Citizenship

- ☒ Amendments in committee public prior to vote
- ☒ Require virtual option for subcommittee meetings
- ☒ Timely processing of FOIA requests
- ☒ Reinstate board gender balance requirement

ENACTED:

- 2% **allowed growth** (\$96.8 m ESA/\$105 m public)
- Continued cuts for AEAs, split **special education** and paraeducator funding
- **Accrediting agency** retaliation banned
- School of **Intellectual Freedom** (UI) - \$1 million
- Center for **Civic Education** (UNI) – \$1 million
- Governor's "**Math Counts**"
- Changes to definition of **bullying** (less clear)
- **Human Growth & Development** instruction to now include fetal development & videos showing "humanity of unborn child."
- **School threat** assessment teams (multidisciplinary)
- **DEI Ban** – Community Colleges
- HS Students must pass **civics test** to graduate (60%)



Education

- ☒ Track public funds for non-public schools
- ☒ Require non-public schools meet same standards
- ☒ Fully fund public schools
- ☒ Expand affordable childcare & four-year preschool
- ☒ Reinstate all AEA functions

FAILED:

- “Freedom from Indoctrination” Act
- “Syllabus Transparency” Act
- “Combating Terrorist Sympathizers” Act
- College core requirement – history & civics
- DEI ban in private colleges
- HS Requirements (firearm safety,
- School chaplains
- Early childhood funding changes & reorganization
- Mandated school cooperation with ICE
- More library restrictions – association (ALA), funding
- Reinstatement of library levies



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ENACTED:

- **Pregnant** college student accommodations
- Changes to **Human Growth & Development** instruction
- Gives **adoptive parents** same parental leave benefits
- **Paid leave** for new parents who are state employees
- No Medicaid-funded **gender affirming** care (HRT/surgery)
- IHWP **work requirements** (80 hours/month)
- Governor's **Rural Health initiative** (hub & spoke; unbundling maternal care rates)
- \$1.5M opioid settlement for “women-focused” recovery



Reproductive Rights

- ☒ Guarantee full range of reproductive health services
- ☒ Contraception without prescription
- ☒ Medicaid comprehensive, accessible
- ☒ Repeal six-week abortion ban
- ☒ Make contraception & preventive services more accessible
- ☒ Address state's OBGYN deserts

FAILED:

- Parental consent required for HPV vaccine
- Constitutional Amendment/Right to Reproductive Care
- Court-ordered surgical castration for sex offenders
- No warrants/subpoenas for menstrual information
- Criminalizing sale of “abortifacient drugs”
- Health care “Free Speech” and refusal to provide services
- Bans on medication abortions
- OTC contraception
- Infertility, contraceptive, diagnostic breast exam coverage mandate
- Doula coverage/Medicaid
- “Human Life Protection Act” & “Unborn Child Death Act”
- Feminine hygiene products (free in schools)
- Full family paid leave act – public & private sector



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ENACTED:

- Constitutional amendment (**minor witness** exemption from confrontation clause) – 1st pass
- \$150,000 new funding for human trafficking **victim assistance**

FAILED:

- Enhanced penalty for soliciting prostitution (felony)
- Statute of limitations (eliminating)
- Expungement of human trafficking victim records
- Omnibus human trafficking bill



Human Trafficking

- ☒ Increase state funding for victim services
- ☒ Protect victims from criminal prosecution (Safe Harbor)
- ☒ Embrace strategies to prevent human trafficking, domestic violence and sexual assault

ENACTED:

- Extends REAP sunset by 2 years (June 30, 2028)

FAILED:

- Constitutional Amendment/Right to Clean Environment
- Constitutional Amendment/Repeal of IWILL
- IUB Ban/climate considerations in decisions
- Crime/intentional release of air contaminants
- Challenges to land donation (conservation)



Environment

- ☒ Adopt a state climate change strategy
- ☒ Expand water quality initiatives
- ☒ Fully fund REAP

ENACTED:

- **18-year-old** carrying/purchasing of handguns
- **Loaded weapons** carried on ATVs/Snowmobiles
- School threat assessment teams
- No sharing of info on those **banned from buying guns**, increased mandatory minimums for felons with firearms

FAILED:

- **School security** personnel grants
- “**Second Amendment** Preservation Act”
- “**Anti-Red Flag** Enforcement Act”
- Tax exemptions & tax-free holidays for **firearms**
- **Guns** allowed on school property (drop-off, etc)
- Requires DPS sell **seized firearms/ammunition**
- Tax credit for **firearm safety devices**



Gun Safety

- ☒ Oppose policies that put guns in schools.
- ☒ Enact common sense gun laws:
 - Background Checks
 - Gun Show Loopholes
 - Mandatory Gun locks
 - Ban assault weapons
 - Reverse Stand Your Ground

2025 Public Policy Priorities

★ VOTING

Promote equal access to voting and ensure all votes are counted. Adopt automatic voter registration. Enact ranked choice voting. Pass a constitutional amendment allowing Iowans with felony convictions to vote after time served. End electoral college.

🏛️ TRANSPARENCY & CITIZENSHIP

Demand government accountability and transparency by requiring all amendments and bills discussed in committee to be available to the public prior to a vote. Demand timely processing of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. Encourage direct citizen participation by continuing virtual committee and subcommittee meetings. Reinstate gender balance requirements for appointed boards and commissions.

🎓 EDUCATION

Provide oversight and track public funds being used for non-public schools. Require any non-public school receiving public funds to meet the same standards as public schools. Fully fund public schools and reinstate all AEA functions. Continue to expand access to affordable childcare and free four-year-old preschool.

🏠 REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Guarantee access to the full range of women's reproductive health services. Repeal the six-week abortion ban. Make contraception available without prescription and promote programs that help prevent unplanned pregnancies. Ensure Medicaid services are comprehensive and accessible. Set policies that attract maternal health professionals and address the state's OB/GYN deserts.

👤 HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Increase state funding for victim services; develop strategies to prevent human trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual assault; and enact "Safe Harbor" legislation to protect victims from criminal prosecution.

💧 ENVIRONMENT

Recognize the need for and fund water quality initiatives. Fully fund REAP. Develop state climate change strategies.

🔫 GUN SAFETY

Enact comprehensive common sense gun safety legislation. Ban assault rifles and military-grade weapons. Enact background checks on all gun sales, close gun show loopholes, require gun safety locks, repeal "stand your ground" law, and oppose legislation that allows the carrying of guns in schools.



Forecast for 2026 (so far...)

Tax Cuts



Property tax and tax
increment finance (TIF)
reform

Budgets



Medicaid, Education,
federal funding
changes impacting
state budget

Other?



Lame ducks, fallout from
carbon pipeline veto