

# Dan Kelley

## 2014 Legislative Report

### State Representative

#### State Representative Dan Kelley



Po Box 333  
Newton, IA 50208  
641-521-9260 (Cell)  
Dan.Kelley@legis.iowa.gov  
[www.electkelley.com](http://www.electkelley.com)

Greetings,

I took your ideas with me to the State Capitol and worked to do what's best for the people of Jasper County.

Working together, we reached bi-partisan agreements to reduce residential and commercial property taxes, expand job training opportunities, help small businesses, and improve education.

While this newsletter addresses some of the issues of the 2014 Legislative Session, I look forward to hearing from you about the issues you hope the Legislature will address in 2015. As always, please feel free to contact me with any problems or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Kelley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

### Working Together for a Strong Middle Class

Lawmakers wrapped up the 2014 legislative session in April and worked together to provide more economic security for the middle class.

Starting next year, hard working families can take advantage of new tax credits to offset the high cost of child care and lawmakers also passed a \$2,500 adoption tax credit.

Building on efforts started last year to boost Iowa's skilled workforce, legislators continued to expand job training opportunities at Iowa's community colleges, including programs at DMACC.

A new Apprenticeship Training program will receive \$2.75 million annually to train Iowans in a trade or

skill. It also rewards apprenticeship programs with good retention and completion rates.

To keep higher education affordable for everyone, Iowa students attending one of Iowa's three state universities won't face any increase in tuition for the 2nd year in a row.

This year, Iowa businesses will benefit from lower property taxes in a multi-year effort to lower taxes for Iowa businesses, especially small businesses.

Several bills passed this session will extend renewable energy efforts across the state, including wind and solar. The legislature tripled the amount of tax credits available to Iowans for in-

stalling solar energy projects, to a total of \$4.5 million annually.

#### Iowa Speedway Enhancements

This year the legislature passed a bill to enhance the success of the Iowa Speedway.

Senate File 2341, provides a rebate of 5% of sales tax on goods or services sold at the Iowa Speedway, the remaining 2% will stay with the schools and local government, up to a cap of \$12.5 million. This rebate is a performance based incentive that only benefits the speedway if there is increased activity.

The initiative will be a \$50 million boost in economic activity to our community and Iowa.

# Recreation Expanded in Iowa; REAP Funded at \$16 Million

Lawmakers took several steps this year to improve the quality of life in Iowa.

The Legislature approved \$16 million for the Resource Enhancement and Protection Fund, often referred to as REAP, from annual funding sources this year. That funding represents the same level of funding that REAP received last year, the highest funding level for REAP since 2009 and 2010. REAP provides funding for soil and water enhancement, county conservation, and parks and open spaces.

REAP also received an additional \$9 million in one-time funding from two other budget bills this legislative session, which would have brought the overall funding of REAP to \$25 million this year in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the fund. Unfortunately, Governor Branstad vetoed this additional \$9 million in funding.

The Legislature continued our com-

mitment to provide \$5 million for infrastructure improvements at Iowa's state parks, with additional funding provided for operations and maintenance costs.

Since 2006, the Legislature has provided funding to enhance Iowa's priority state lake projects that have established watershed improvement initiatives and have community support. This year is no exception. A total of \$9.6 million is provided for lakes restoration to help provide a sustainable, healthy, and functioning lake system for all kinds of activities, including boating, swimming, and fishing, which is an increase of \$1 million.

Finally, Iowa's community attraction and tourism program is provided \$5 million next year, for competitive grants to help revitalize local communities through their tourism activities. An additional \$1 million is provided to the State's Great Places program.



Representative Dan Kelley joined librarians Nichole Lindstrom and Kelly Sue Padilla with the Newton Library during the Library Association Reception. Representative Kelley donated Dr. Seuss' "ABC: An Amazing Alphabet Book" to the children's library and received a "Get to Know Newton" mug as a gift from the library.

## Protecting Iowa Seniors

Lawmakers approved several bills this session to provide additional protections for vulnerable Iowa seniors.

Senate File 2239 allows vulnerable elders that are taken advantage of to seek a protective order from their abusers, if there is physical or financial abuse.

The bill also requires

state agencies that deal with seniors to collaborate and provide written recommendations to strengthen Iowa's elder abuse prevention efforts.

Senate File 2168 provides additional protections for elderly Iowan's that rely on a power of attorney to help manage their affairs. It creates specific minimum duties on

agents, or people granted authority to act for an elderly Iowan, under one of these legal documents.

The bill also establishes mandatory duties on agents, as well as specifying when an agent must disclose information to organizations such as the courts or adult protective services.

## About Dan

- Owns and operates small business in Newton
- Longtime resident of Newton and Newton High School Graduate
- Serving second term in the Iowa House
- Ranking Member of the Administration and Regulation Budget Subcommittee
- Serves on Environmental Protection, Ways and Means, Agriculture and International Affairs Committees
- Member of the Iowa State Capitol Planning Commission



FACEBOOK.COM/  
ELECTKELLEYPAGE



EMAIL TO SIGN UP  
FOR MY E-NEWSLETTER