



Representative Andrew Wenthe Statehouse News

April 10, 2008

Inside this Issue

- 1** Capitol Comments
- 2** Passes Smoke Free Air Act to Become Law
- 3** Modest Adjustments to State Revenue Estimate
- 4** REAP Funded at \$16 Million
- 4** Education Budget Passes House Appropriations
- 5** Student Debt Bill Passes Oversight
- 6** Eye Examination for Children Required
- 6** Infrastructure Assistance Bill Sent to Governor
- 6** Governor Signs Three Environmental Bills
- 7** Governor Signs Deer Bill That Helps Farmers/Hunters
- 8** DOT to Study Electronic Payments
- 8** Transportation Policy Bill Passes Senate
- 8** Power Fund Board Moves Forward on Five Projects
- 9** Governor Signs Street Rod Title Bill

For additional information, check my web site at:
www.andrewwenthe.org
 or email me at
andrew.wenthe@legis.ia.state.us
 Representative Andrew Wenthe
 State Capitol Building
 Des Moines IA 50319
 515-281-7478

Capitol Comments

One of my highest priorities coming into this legislative session was to pass a bill making the current one cent local option sales tax for schools a statewide sales tax. Currently, voters in all 99 counties have approved this local option sales tax to be used for specific purposes related to school infrastructure or to provide property tax relief.

Upon passage of HF 2663, all sales tax money across the state would go into one pot and then be distributed out to school districts on a per pupil basis. I'm supportive of this equitable distribution for a couple of reasons. When an individual from Readlyn goes on a shopping trip to Cedar Rapids, under current law the extra penny sales tax paid would go to Linn County schools. When HF 2663 becomes law, the formula allowing for equal distribution will be used, and all of the school districts and rural communities in House District 18 will benefit by more per pupil dollars and property tax relief.

I am confident that this is the right action to take for Iowa. Ensuring that all of our kids have access to a quality education will help the entire state in the long run. I expect the Senate to pass this bill and the Governor to sign it into law. If you have questions about this complicated legislation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

The House passed several budget bills this week, another sign that we are drawing near to

adjournment. One bill we passed, the Agriculture and Natural Resources budget, took another step toward full funding of the popular and important Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP). If the Senate accepts our version of this bill and it is signed into law, REAP will receive \$16 million in funding in FY 2009.

All school districts in HD 18 will benefit from SILO.
 Some examples include:
 > North Fayette which will gain an estimated \$119,322 in 2010 and \$292,213 by 2014
 > Denver which will gain an estimated \$95,216 in 2010 and \$207,454 in 2014
 > Oelwein which will gain an estimated \$157,981 in 2010 and \$410,987 by 2014

This funding level will be the most for REAP, the state's premier environmental and natural resource program, since 1991. REAP provides moneys for projects that enhance our natural, cultural, and recreational resources including environmental education, soil and water enhancement, parks, trails, museums, and roadside beautification. I was proud to vote for this support for REAP, as I know the great impact REAP projects have had in northeast Iowa.

Another of my legislative priorities coming into this session also will likely be signed by Governor Culver next week. While

this bill has a direct impact on far fewer people than the SILO or REAP bills, it is still incredibly important. SF 2214, a companion bill to legislation I introduced in the House on the same subject, passed both the House and Senate unanimously in the last two weeks. The bill deals with modifications of child custody orders when the child's parent is serving on active military duty.

Communities in HD 18 will receive property tax relief as a result of SILO.

Some examples include:

- Tripoli school district will save an estimated \$59,984 in 2011
- Oelwein school district will save an estimated \$244,313 in 2011
- Valley school district will save an estimated \$60,192 in 2011

The reason I introduced this bill is because of conversations I had with a couple of people in the district who had known individuals who had lost custody of a child due to their deployment to serve our country. Passage of

this bill provides that, if an application for modification of a child custody order is filed while a parent is serving on active military duty, the court may only enter a temporary child custody order and only if there is clear and convincing evidence that the change is in the best interest of the child. When a parent returns from active duty, the bill requires the court to reinstate the custody order that was in effect just before the parent was deployed.

Additionally, the bill provides that application for modification of child custody is filed after a parent returns from active duty, the parent's absence due to active duty cannot be considered a substantial change in circumstances and the court cannot consider the parent's absence due to active duty status in determining the best interest of the child. This bill will go a long way toward eliminating an additional stress for men and women who are being called into service for their country. I want to thank those back home who brought this issue to my attention.

Finally, I'd like to thank Ray Carlson of Tripoli for bringing his Government classes to visit the Capitol this week. The students were able to watch part of the SILO debate and I enjoyed taking their questions afterward.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me via email, phone or mail if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing you around the district soon!



Representative Andrew Wenthe giving opening comments on Senate File 2108, a bill which designates the first Monday in April as "Gift to Iowa's Future Recognition Day", a day which will recognize individuals who donate land to Iowa.

Smoke Free Air Act to Become Law

After a compromise was reached by the House and Senate, the Smoke Free Air Act was quickly passed by the House on a 54-45 vote, and the Senate on a 28-22 vote. The Governor is expected to sign the bill next week, and it will take effect on July 1, 2008.

I voted against the statewide smoking ban when it came before the House previously and I voted against the conference

committee version as well, primarily for two reasons. More and more, bars and restaurants across Iowa are choosing to be smoke-free and there is evidence supporting that this choice results in increased business. I think this trend would continue without state involvement, and I certainly encourage business owners to take this step to promote public health. However, I believe a business owner should have the right to make that

choice just as a consumer has a choice whether or not to patronize an establishment that allows smoking.

Second, and more importantly, I do not like the idea of exempting casinos in any way from the smoking ban. This creates an unfair advantage for casinos.

This was a tough vote for me because I certainly want to protect people from the proven

harmful effects of second-hand smoke. However, after soliciting and receiving feedback from my district and carefully weighing the concerns I previously mentioned, I decided to vote against the bill. However, on a bipartisan vote, House File 2212 did receive adequate support in both the House and Senate and will likely be signed by Governor Culver next week.

House File 2212 applies to profit or nonprofit workplaces and public places. Places not covered may voluntarily be declared a nonsmoking place. A public place is defined as an enclosed area where the public is invited or permitted, including restaurants, bars, retail stores, public buildings, schools, day-care providers, and health care providers.

Exceptions to Ban:

- Private residences (unless used for child care).
- Private long-term-care rooms.

- Hotels and motels, but only in designated nonsmoking rooms.
- Stores primarily selling tobacco products.
- Private clubs with no employees when not used by the public.
- Private limos, employer owned vehicles provided exclusively to one employee, and farm vehicles.
- State and county fair grounds.
- National Guard facilities.
- Designated areas in prisons.
- The Iowa Veterans Home.
- The gaming floors only of casinos.

The ban is enforced by the Department of Public Health (DPH), which provides compliance information to employers and those having custody of a public place. All state or local government inspectors must also assess compliance with the

smoking ban and report violations to DPH.

Employers and custodians of public places must inform violators of the ban and post signs that include the telephone number for reporting complaints. An employee or any other person may file a complaint with DPH or bring legal action to enforce the ban, including seeking an injunction. Judicial magistrates will hear and determine violations.

Penalties

Smoking where banned is subject to a \$50 fine. Employers or custodians of public places who fail to comply may be fined \$100 the first time, \$200 the second time in a year, and \$500 for additional violations within a year. Retaliation against an employee is subject to a fine of from \$2,000 to \$10,000 per violation.

Modest Adjustments to State Revenue Estimate

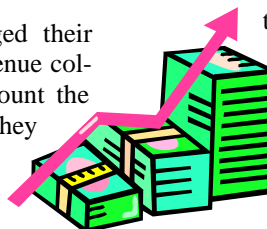
The Revenue Estimating Conference (REC) held their quarterly meeting Friday and increased their revenue estimate for this fiscal year, 2008. The REC estimates that, compared to their last estimate on December 11, there will be a \$78.8 million increase in revenues this year and a \$49.1 million increase next year, fiscal year 2009.

The REC increased estimated growth in net state revenues for fiscal year (FY) 2008 from 6.0% to 7.2% over last year. The REC estimates that the state will collect \$6.062 billion in net general fund receipts, which is \$415.9 million more than the state received in FY 2007. This new estimate is \$78.8

million higher than their estimate in December 2007.

FY 2009 Revenues

The REC also changed their estimates for FY 2009 revenue collections. Taking into account the larger base for FY 2008, they actually lowered the net percentage growth from 2.6% to 2.1% over the this year. The REC estimates the state will collect \$6.189 billion in FY 2009, which is \$127.9 million more than is anticipated in FY 2008. This new estimate is \$49.1 million higher than the REC estimated in December 2007.



The REC members spoke cautiously about Iowa's resilience with a slowing national economy, but were hesitant to suggest the national economy is headed for another recession. The modest changes in their revenue estimate are reflective of their concerns.

The REC also projects the increase in gambling revenues that are deposited in other funds. Currently, the first \$60 million goes to the general fund. The REC raised its gambling revenue estimate for FY 2008 from its previous estimate

of \$218.6 million to \$219.2 million, a \$600,000 increase. The REC

projected FY 2009 gambling revenues will increase from \$221.4

million to \$222 million, an increase of \$600,000.

REAP Funded at \$16 million

Iowa's Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) program will receive \$16 million next year under House File 2662, which is an increase of \$500,000. This is the highest amount of funding since 1991.

Since last year, the majority party has increased funding for this very important and popular environmental and recreation program by \$5 million. REAP, which needs \$20 million to be fully funded, provides moneys for projects that enhance our natural, cultural, and recreational resources including environmental education, soil and water enhancement, parks, trails, museums, and roadside beautification.

This funding was part of a larger budget bill that funds the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (DALs) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). This is the first step in determining the operations budget for these agencies for the next state fiscal year starting July 1, 2008.

House File 2662 appropriates a total of \$43.4 million from the general fund, which is a \$235,000 reduction from the current fiscal year, FY 2008. The bill also appropriates \$40 million from the Environment First Fund for agriculture and natural resources programs.

The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration.

Soil and Water



The bill fully funds our commitments to soil conservation and water quality programs. This includes fully funding county soil and water conservation district commissioners' expenses. Local commissioners have urged lawmakers to help offset the expenses they pay out of their own pockets.

The bill also maintains the current funding level of \$7 million for the soil conservation cost-share program that helps landowners install measures to control soil erosion. Funding is also maintained for the conservation reserve enhance program, the watershed protection program, farm management demonstrations, helping farmers enroll in the federal conservation reserve program, and closing agricultural drainage wells to improve water quality.

Water quality monitoring is also maintained at its current level of almost \$3 million. The bill also appropriates \$495,000 to continue our efforts adopted last year to study water quantity issues in Iowa.

Vet Diagnostic Lab

This budget bill provides \$2 million to the veterinary diagnostic laboratory at Iowa State University. Another \$1 million will be appropriated to the lab in a different budget bill later this session. This will reach the goal the Legislature adopted last year to increase funding to a total of \$3 million for FY 2009. The bill also maintains the intent language that \$4 million should be appropriated for the lab starting in FY 2010 and thereafter.

The lab assists local veterinarians and their clients, through research and diagnostic services, in detecting and preventing diseases in livestock.

The bill also maintains funding for our state veterinarians. The department said tuberculosis was found in some cattle in Minnesota, which means the federal government is going to require DALs to track more thoroughly the movement of cattle from Minnesota into Iowa. This budget bill means DALs has the necessary money to be able to react to this situation.

Education Budget Passes House Appropriations

The education budget passed the House Appropriations Committee this week on a party-line vote. Many of the majority party priorities are included in this budget:

- Keeping the best and brightest teachers in the state of Iowa by paying them competitive wages.

- Increasing work study money.
- Keeping tuition at community colleges and regent universities to the rate of inflation.
- Providing opportunities to students for before and after school programs or remedial assistance.

- Requiring rigor and relevance in Iowa's schools to provide Iowa students competitive advantages in the global economy and workforce

These promises made to Iowans were kept with passage of House File 2679. Highlights of the bill are:

Teacher Pay

A \$75 million increase for teacher salaries is in the bill, for a total compensation package of \$248 million.

Work Study

The budget increased work study by \$403,000, for a total of almost \$700,000. The federal government also appropriates \$13 million to Iowa for work study.

Tuition

The Board of Regents will get \$650 million. Community colleges receive \$180 million, an increase of

\$8.5 million. The money will aid in keeping tuition down.

Before and After School

Before and after school programs receive \$595,000 in this budget. With supplements from other budgets, these programs will receive a total of approximately \$1 million.

Core Curriculum

An allocation of \$2.6 million for the mandatory implementation of the Iowa Model Core Curriculum is included in the education budget. This is dependent on the passage of Senate File 2216. The bill will increase rigor and rele-

vance in Iowa's classrooms and is the first mandatory statewide measure for standards in Iowa schools.

House File 2679 appropriates a total of \$1.14 billion for many education related purposes. The money in the bill goes to the Department for the Blind, the Department of Education, College Aid Commission, and the Board of Regents and its institutions.

The budget will give a major boost to education in the State of Iowa. The bill will now move to the House Floor for debate.

Student Debt Bill Passes Oversight

The Government Oversight Committee passed legislation this week addressing student loans by private lenders and the relationship to educational institutions. House Study Bill 788 would shed sunshine on the financial aid that students are receiving. Iowa college students have the second highest student debt rate. The bill will provide better protection and guidance to Iowa students and their families.

In the past several years, there has been increased scrutiny of the secondary and private educational loan market. With the increase in student debt across the nation, it would clearly suggest that the issue needs to be taken seriously by lawmakers at all levels.

The federal government has already investigated the secondary market in many states, and required some of those organizations to pay back reimbursements they received from the federal government. This has happened in states such as

Pennsylvania, where the secondary market was ordered to pay back millions of dollars and other states were denied future reimbursements.

House Study Bill 788 will provide students with more clear guidance when choosing their student loan provider. The bill will require disclosure by financial loan offices of all financial choices including private, state and federal loans.

Accountability will be required of college student aid offices and educational loan entities including full disclosure and a prohibition on high-risk loans to the borrower. It will also prohibit lenders from providing gifts to colleges and student aid employees in order to gain an advantage over other lenders. There are penalties for lenders who violate these provisions.

A student must exhaust, to the extent possible, their federal, state, and local government assistance options before taking out a private loan. Many times a private educa-

tional loan carries a higher interest rate, and interest is capitalized. However, the bill does not prevent a student from taking out private educational loans. What it does state is that the private educational loan should provide the better rate if a student chooses this option.

The bill will also create a student lending education fund, under control of the Iowa Attorney General. The goal is to utilize those dollars to educate students about the loan process and to reimburse borrowers who received certain inflated loan prices.

The Attorney General will be continuing their on going investigation of educational student loans and the Iowa secondary market. A report on this investigation is due back to the Legislature and Government Oversight Committee by the October meeting of the committee.

Eye Examinations for Children Required

This week, Senate File 2251 passed the Iowa House and the Iowa Senate. The goal of the bill is to have every child receive an eye examination by age seven.

Children need healthy eyes and normal vision development to be able to learn. Studies show that nearly 25% of all school-age children have vision programs and approximately 80% of all learning during a child's first 12 years comes through vision.

According to the Optometric Association, undiagnosed and untreated vision related learning problems are significant contributors to early reading difficulties and may lead to special education classification. The earlier a vision problem

is found and treated, the less negative impact it has on a child's development.

Vision screenings vary in scope and are designed to detect potential problems but are not eye examinations. As a result, they encourage parents to have their children receive an eye examination.

The bill requires that a parent or guardian who registers a child for kindergarten or preschool be given a vision card provided by the Iowa Optometric Association and approved by the Iowa Department of Education.

Secondly, Senate File 2251 states that school districts may en-

courage a student to receive an eye exam by a licensed ophthalmologist or optometrist prior to the student receiving special education services. The eye examination is not a requirement for special education services. The parent or guardian is responsible for the student obtaining an eye examination.

Lastly, local Area Education Agencies, in collaboration with local community organizations, are to make every effort to provide vision screening services to children age two through four.

Senate File 2251 now goes to the Governor for his signature. If enacted, the bill will apply to school years beginning July 1, 2009.

Infrastructure Assistance Bill Sent to Governor

Senate File 2325 would allow the use of up to \$5 million under the business assistance portion of the Grow Iowa Values Fund to be used for projects qualifying for assistance under the Physical Infrastructure Assistance (PIAP) program. The bill is designed to allow businesses to have a greater access to needed infrastructure assistance.

Applicants for the \$5 million would not have to meet the wage

threshold requirements of the Grow Iowa Values Fund, but the tenant would have to meet the requirements within three years. This is the standard time to meet such requirements for economic development projects.

In awarding funds through PIAP, the Department of Economic Development is must give special consideration to projects that include significant physical infra-

structure components designed to increase property tax revenues to local governments.

The bill is designed to help Tech. Works of Waterloo since they received PIAP dollars to help build their facility, but will not directly be creating jobs. Although designed for Tech. Works, the bill will also help other Iowa projects. The bill takes affect as soon as it is signed by the Governor.

Governor Signs Three Environmental Bills

This past week, the Governor signed three bills designed to protect Iowa's natural resources. All three bills take effect on July 1, 2008.

Surface Water Protection

House File 2400, known as the Surface Water Protection Act, creates a Water Resources Coordinating Council within the Governor's Office to preserve and protect

Iowa's water resources and coordinate efforts throughout the state.

The success of the council's efforts will ultimately be measured by whether Iowa citizens can more easily organize local watershed projects; can more easily access available funds and water quality program resources; and whether the funds, programs, and regulatory efforts coordinated by the council eventually result in a long-term

improvement to the quality of surface water in Iowa.

The Surface Water Protection Act calls for 56 regional watershed assessments to be completed in five years, providing a summary of the overall condition of Iowa's watersheds. In addition, smaller community-based subwatershed improvement plans are to be developed and implemented, including monitoring plans.

The bill also requires the Department of Natural Resources to assess and prioritize both sewered and unsewered communities within a watershed presenting the greatest level of risk to water quality and the health of residents.

Solid Waste Disposal

House File 2570 establishes the designation of an Environmental Management System (EMS), to encourage responsible environmental management and solid waste disposal and to enhance efforts to promote environmental stewardship.

To qualify for designation as an EMS, a solid waste planning area must actively pursue all of the following: yard waste management, hazardous household waste collection, water quality improvement, greenhouse gas reduction, recycling services, and environmental education.

A Solid Waste Alternatives Program Advisory Council is established, which is required to consider solid waste management plans submitted by the solid waste planning areas and make recommendations for designation as an EMS to the Environmental Protection Commission (EPC).

House File 2570 also establishes the Comprehensive Recycling Planning Task Force, which will study and make recommendations for the planning and implementation of comprehensive statewide recycling programs, including an evaluation of the current beverage container control law, known as the Bottle Bill. The task force must submit a written report containing its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature by January 1, 2009.

Septic Tank Inspections

Senate File 261 requires that private sewage disposal systems must be inspected prior to when the property is sold or transferred. Currently in Iowa, at least 21 counties have adopted the requirement that private sewage disposal systems must be inspected when the property is sold or transferred.

At the time of inspection, any septic tank, as part of the sewage disposal system, must be opened and have the contents pumped out and disposed. However, the owner may provide evidence that the septic tank was pumped out within the previous year.

After the inspection, the DNR inspection form and any related reports must be submitted to the county for enforcement of any mandatory follow up system improvements, and to DNR to be kept for record.

Governor Signs Deer Bill That Helps Farmers/Hunters

Governor Culver signed Senate File 2328, which establishes a depredation management program to help farmers address the problems they're having from deer. The Legislature wanted to make sure this legislation started immediately so it went into effect upon his signature, which was Tuesday, April 8th.

Legislators have heard numerous stories from farmers regarding the devastation deer are causing to their crops and how this is affecting their livelihood. Senate File 2328 requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to make deer depredation hunting licenses available to resident hunters. These licenses allow the hunting of does

on farmers' property during the hunting seasons.

A landowner who incurs crop, horticultural product, tree, or nursery damage in excess of \$1,000, due to wildlife, is to enter into a depredation management agreement with DNR. The producers will be issued a set number of licenses from the department. These licenses are available to hunters for that farmer's property.

Deer shooting permits must also be available from DNR. These permits may be used outside the established deer hunting seasons on the farmers' property.

The bill requires DNR to conduct outreach programs for farmers

and farm and commodity organizations that explain the deer depredation management program. DNR is also required to develop a master hunter program and maintain a list of master hunters who are available to assist producers with hunting does on their property.

Finally, the bill establishes a deer study advisory committee to study the best way to maintain a sustainable, socially acceptable deer population in Iowa, while maximizing and balancing the economic value of deer hunting to Iowa's economy with the needs of the agricultural industry and public safety concerns. A final report is due to the Legislature by January 10, 2009.

DOT to Study Electronic Payments

Governor Culver signed House File 2196 into law this week. The bill requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to consider offering electronic payment methods, such as credit cards, at DOT locations.

The bill calls for the DOT to review current methods the department uses to collect fees and revenue at any sites used by customers. The DOT is then to consider offering electronic payment methods at these locations. The

DOT must report its findings to both the Senate and House Transportation Committees by December 31, 2008.

Transportation Policy Bill Passes Senate

The Department of Transportation policy bill, House File 2651, was amended and passed the Senate this week. The bill makes changes to cranes utilized in alternative energy projects, seriously disabled veterans, antique vehicle plates, and private university license plates. It must now be considered again by the House.

Alternative Energy Cranes

The bill allows the DOT and local authorities to issue annual and single-trip highway permits for the movement of cranes utilized in the construction of alternative energy facilities, regardless of the weight of the crane. The bill also allows special multi-trip permits, valid for 12 months or less and a fee of \$600, for the movement of oversize and overweight vehicles in an alternative energy construction site or staging area.

Disabled Veterans

The bill provides a seriously disabled veteran who is provided a vehicle by the U.S. government does not have to apply for a disabilities parking permit. This provision does not apply if the disabled veteran has special registration plates or personalized plates for the provided vehicle.

Antique Vehicle Plates

The bill creates an antique motor vehicle plate for trucks, truck and road tractors, or motor homes. In order to qualify, an appropriate vehicle must be at least 25 years old and the owner must intend the vehicle for only "limited use." Allowed uses under the bill includes exhibition at a state or county fair or other places where the vehicle will be exhibited for entertainment or education purposes. The antique plates require a \$70 certificate and

\$40 for license plates, both valid for two years.

Private University Plates

The bill creates a new four-year private college or private university special license plate. After an application is submitted by a private four-year college or university located in Iowa, the Department of Transportation will work with the institution to design a license plate that displays the colors associated with that institution. The new private college or university license plates will cost \$25, in addition to the regular annual fee. The private college or university plates can be personalized. The bill also allows both the new four-year private college or university plates and the already established state university plates to be displayed on not only motor vehicles and trailers, but also motor trucks, motor homes, and multipurpose vehicles.

Power Fund Board Moves Forward on Five Projects

The Iowa Power Fund Board moved five projects, which have applied for Power Fund money, to the negotiation phase. The money is earmarked for research and development in renewable energy and projects that improve energy efficiency.

Last year, Governor Culver proposed and the Legislature approved creating a \$100 million

Power Fund. It is managed by the newly created Office of Energy Independence.

The Iowa Power Fund board has indicated that they are interested in moving forward with funding five projects, and has appointed a negotiation committee for each of those applicants. The committees will work with each applicant to iron out project and funding details.

The projects moving forward work towards improving energy efficiency. They include:

Cellencor Inc., Ames

The \$1.5 million project reduces the energy and environment costs of drying corn distillers' grain.

UNI, Cedar Falls

The \$612,000 project determines the maximum sustainable production of biomass with mixtures of prairie species.

ISU, Ames

The \$1.6 million project works on efficient, low cost photovoltaic solar energy conservation.

Renew Energy Systems, Osage

The \$655,000 project develops a mobile solid biomass briquette plant.

Green Plains Renewable Energy, Shenandoah

Researches a renewable energy algae project for \$2.3 million.

The Power Fund Board meets again on May 14, 2008. The proposals under negotiation will be discussed and the board could finalize funding for one or more of the projects.

Governor Signs Street Rod Title Bill

On April 8, 2008, Governor Culver signed House File 2452, which allows custom built cars, more commonly referred to as street rods, to be titled as the type of car that they appear to be. Under current law, if a car is built from scratch it is titled as a vehicle built in the year it is finished, even

if the vehicle is built to look like a vintage car. For example, an individual that builds a car from scratch to look like a 1932 Ford Roadster would have to title the car as a 2008 vehicle if it was finished this year. Under this law, the car will now be titled as a 1932 Ford Roadster.

This bill was supported by the Specialty Equipment Market Association, or SEMA, an organization that represents the automotive specialty and performance parts industry.