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Good afternoon,

Today is day eighty-seven of the one-hundred and twenty-one days of session. This week, the Senate Finance Committee heard the following bills: SB 154: Home: Care Employment Standards Advisory Board, HB 173: Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact, HB 17: Disabled Veterans Retirement options, SB 126: Correctional Facilities Placement, HB 184: AIDEA Finance Workforce Housing Development, and SB 214: FY27 Capital Budget bill. All these bills remain in committee for further consideration.

The Senate Finance Subcommittees have begun their FY27 budget close-out process with their respective State agencies. The subcommittee recommendations will come before the full Senate Finance Committee for further consideration. The Senate Finance Committee is moving one step closer to submitting the FY 27 Operating budget to the full Senate. The House has completed their work on the budget and sent their recommendations to us.

Scheduled before the full Senate this week, SB 35: Delivery Network Companies, SB 167: Criminal Conviction Overturned Receive past PFDs, SB 252: UCC Secured Trans, Electronic Records, SB 230: Jonesville Public Use Area, SB 187: School Nutrition/M meal Prohibit Dyes, SJR 28: Supporting J-1 & H-18 Visa Programs.

Have a good weekend!

2026 Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety Program

Application period is open from May 4 to May 7. In 2026, a total of 150 local volunteer fire departments will receive a \$10,000 grant the Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety Program to buy equipment that improves responder safety and effectiveness. This program is funded by State Farm and is administered by the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC). At least one recipient will be selected from every state that has 10 or more eligible applications. The first 2,000 applicants will receive a one year NVFC membership courtesy of State Farm.

Departments must be over 50% volunteer, serve populations of 25,000 or less, have an annual revenue of no more than \$250,000, and located in the U.S. and legally organized under state law. Grant funds can be used to fund a variety of equipment, including PPE, Technology, communication devices, rescue tools, and more.

The application form will be available on the webpage from noon ET on May 4 to May 7.

www.nvfc.org/statefarm