



# PEI

**PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS OF IOWA**

**RESERVE AUGUST 4 NOW!  
LET'S CELEBRATE!**

MAY 25, 2011



#### **In This Issue**

[20-11 Promotion](#)

#### **SUMMER EMAIL**

If you are receiving our emails on school email, please make sure we can also write to you this summer. There is much to communicate about.

A quick note to [proedia@aol.com](mailto:proedia@aol.com) will cover the issue.

#### **Contact Us**

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[www.peiowa.org](http://www.peiowa.org)

*Chicago the Musical*

Dear Rebecca,

**PEI is excited to announce our THIRTY YEAR ANNIVERSARY conference will be August 4. We are finalizing details now and will be sending you more soon. This will be a celebration to remember! Dynamic speaker and supporter of the PEI principles of freedom from union domination, National Right to Work, Executive Director, Mark Mix will be our keynote speaker. Please reserve August 4 because we want you with us on this special occasion.**

#### **Legislation, Politics, and Decisions**

Some of you may be wondering why we haven't sent a legislative report in a while. Well that is because at the state legislature the past few weeks a report can be summed up quite quickly that almost nothing has been accomplished. The budget battle is still continuing between the two chambers and the



In this day and age, when everyone wants more

bang for their buck it's good to know there's a "sure thing" - CHICAGO The Musical. [\(read more\)](#)

## e-Ticket Instructions

Purchasing tickets through the e-Ticket program allows you to access discounted tickets to upcoming Civic Center of Des Moines events. Please call the PEI Office at 515-221-2330 for instructions on how to access the e-ticket program.



governor's office. Very few members are reporting to the capitol every day. The only ones reporting are the leaders and they are in closed door negotiations trying to determine what the final state budget will be. The legislative session was scheduled to end the last week of April, but it now appears that it will go into June. The governor is refusing to call a special session, meaning our legislators are no longer being paid and they are no longer being reimbursed. The governor feels the April deadline was an adequate amount of time and they must get to work.

Allowable growth has still not been set. 2% is what the senate desires and the governor and house is calling for 0% as we have discussed in past legislative reports. I have heard in this area that progress is being made and based on trend, attitudes, and other indicators; I expect allowable growth to come in at least 1% if not more. The governor's pre-school bill at this time appears to be dead, and with that being the case the old program will stay intact. Negotiations will now encompass how much to fund the current program. Of course none of this is set in stone; it is all speculation until the legislature passes the budget and the governor signs it, but we have a good feeling this is the direction they are moving.

We must remember that the state faces millions of dollars in cuts and with education being more than half of the budget it will likely receive some cuts somewhere. AEAs and the state universities will likely be receiving their cuts proposed in the original budget plan by the Iowa House, but there is uncertainty if the cuts will remain that large. In the original proposal cuts were planned for the Iowa Core as well and the fate of those also remains uncertain.

A large portion of the budget debate between both chambers and the governor has been centered on a one year or two year budget. Both chambers in the legislature have expressed support for a one year budget, but the governor appears to be winning this debate and will likely receive his two year budget in some form. Once this is settled it will help speed up the negotiation process.

Both parties will blame each other, but overall this legislative session has been one of the least productive in Iowa history. Very little has been accomplished and they did not finish by the deadline. The likelihood of a special session in the fall is looking bleak and many at the capitol sense that if the legislature can't get anything done during regular session that the likelihood of something being accomplished in a special session is dim.

PEI will keep you posted as our state leaders come to an agreement. There is still time to call or email your legislators and express to them what you would like to see in the state budget. Priorities will have to be set in the reality of a restricted budget, so be sure to state your highest priorities with clarity.

Awaiting the final gavel,

Greg Baker  
PEI Representative and Lobbyist

## **PEI REWARDS**

Our 20-11 Promotion is our way of thanking *YOU* for telling others about PEI!

Receive \$20 for every new PEI Professional Member you bring in and \$11 for every new Support Staff.