



Registration Process

1. **Why do we register?** Iowa law requires that a registered lobbyist register on a bill before speaking to legislators about a specific piece of legislation. The options for registration include: "for," "undecided," or "against." IASB complies with that law by ensuring that its two registered lobbyists, Emily Piper and Phil Jeneary, are registered prior to advocating a position with legislators.

2. **What do the different terms mean?** Individual organizations with a lobbying presence may interpret these terms differently but from IASB's standpoint, we define those terms when registering on legislation as follows:

- **"FOR"**: IASB registers "for" bills that support the beliefs and resolutions as adopted by the IASB Delegate Assembly. Registration "for" a bill does not mean that the bill cannot be improved, or that we do not have concerns about some provisions. It does mean that on balance, we believe the positives outweigh any concerns. A registration of "for" means that IASB may continue to work with legislators to improve the bill.
- **"UNDECIDED"**: IASB registers undecided on bills for three possible reasons. First, IASB is truly neutral on the bill. This could mean that while the bill impacts school boards and the districts they oversee, we do not have strong guidance on a position to take. Second, IASB could be undecided because the motivation or underlying reason for the bill is unclear. In this case, IASB registers in order to "legally" ask questions about legislative intent. Finally, IASB registers undecided on the bill because it falls between the parameters of "for" and "against," but still needs some work.
- **"AGAINST"**: IASB registers against bills that clearly contradict the beliefs and resolutions adopted by the IASB Delegate Assembly. In registering "against" a bill, IASB may work with legislators to adopt modifications that would change our position.

3. **How does IASB decide its position on specific bills?** The beliefs and resolutions adopted by the IASB Delegate Assembly guide the internal decision-making process for bill registrations. Each day, IASB staff review the bills introduced and offer feedback on the position that the organization should take. If there is a question about the position that requires a broader interpretation of IASB beliefs or resolutions, the IASB Board of Directors may be asked to provide their input.

In the political process, selecting "FOR," "UNDECIDED," or "AGAINST" is a required gateway for your IASB lobbyists to get engaged with legislators and represent the needs of members. We may initially register undecided on a bill that addresses an issue our members widely support but has language that is poorly worded or problematic. Some bills offer easy decisions of support or opposition. Other bills are written in a way that require a judgment call on how to navigate the political process and best represent member needs.

IASB strives to be transparent to our members in this process—so please know, if you ever have a question about our registration on a bill, please give us a call and we will share the political factors influencing that decision.