



Laura Belin <desmoinesdem@bleedingheartland.com>

Qs about two new staff positions

Laura Belin <desmoinesdem@bleedingheartland.com>

Thu, Jul 18, 2019 at 3:51 PM

To: "Garrett, Pat" <pat.garrett@iowa.gov>

Hello Pat,

I'm circling back on these questions. It seems like Paige Thorson is still working as the governor's deputy chief of staff. Has a tax policy analyst started working in the governor's office? If so, who is it? What about the public relations manager?

Any other new hires lately?

Thanks,

Laura

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From: **Laura Belin** <desmoinesdem@bleedingheartland.com>

Date: Tue, Jun 18, 2019 at 2:00 PM

Subject: Fwd: Qs about two new staff positions

To: Garrett, Pat <pat.garrett@iowa.gov>

Pat,

I heard Elizabeth Matney has accepted a position as health policy advisor to Governor Reynolds. Will Paige Thorson be leaving the governor's office? Or will she stay on as deputy chief of staff, just giving up the health policy responsibilities? If so, will she take on any other policy area?

Is there a new tax policy analyst on Governor Reynolds' staff, or plans to hire one?

When do you expect the new public relations manager to start work?

Thanks,

Laura

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From: **Laura Belin** <desmoinesdem@bleedingheartland.com>

Date: Thu, Jun 6, 2019 at 2:20 PM

Subject: Fwd: Qs about two new staff positions

To: Garrett, Pat <pat.garrett@iowa.gov>

Hello Pat,

Circling back on these questions.

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From: **Laura Belin** <desmoinesdem@bleedingheartland.com>

Date: Wed, Jun 5, 2019 at 2:21 PM
Subject: Fwd: Qs about two new staff positions
To: Garrett, Pat <pat.garrett@iowa.gov>

Hello Pat,

Following up on the inquiry enclosed below, I see the governor's office has listed a new position, Public Relations Manager:

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/iowa/jobs/2465321/public-relations-manager?page=8&pagetype=jobOpportunitiesJobs>

Can you clarify what other new positions have been created with the new state funding? For instance, are there plans to hire a new health policy analyst, or a new tax policy analyst, or someone to be involved with constituent service?

Thanks in advance for any information you can provide in the name of transparency on how the governor's office is using taxpayer funds.

Yours,

Laura

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From: **Laura Belin** <desmoinesdem@bleedingheartland.com>
Date: Thu, Apr 11, 2019 at 10:12 AM
Subject: Qs about two new staff positions
To: Garrett, Pat <pat.garrett@iowa.gov>

Hello Pat,

The governor's office requested funding for two additional full-time staff positions for FY2020, which would entail a significant increase in the total budget allocation for the office.

Iowa House Democrats say the governor's staff have not explained what the new staffers would be doing. It is typical for agencies or departments to explain the need for additional positions and what duties would be covered.

Why the secrecy about these positions and why they are needed?

Has the governor's office explained to key Republican lawmakers what the new staff would be doing?

Thanks in advance for any clarification you can provide.

Yours,

Laura

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