



Laura Belin &lt;laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com&gt;

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**seeking comment on Des Moines Register report**

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**Adrian Dickey** <adrian@dickeytransport.com>

Fri, Jun 14, 2024 at 5:47 PM

To: Laura Belin &lt;laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com&gt;

If you are not publishing my comment in its entirety, then I'm asking you to not publish my comment.

Respectfully,

Adrian Dickey

On Jun 14, 2024, at 5:10 PM, Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com> wrote:

Senator Dickey,

Thank you for the response. I do not plan to publish your comments in their entirety, just as I am not using every sentence Senator Boulton or the Department of Labor spokesperson sent to me. Here is what I have in my current draft:

Senator Dickey criticized "the recent grandstanding by the federal government" over what he called "a common sense update to Iowa's youth employment laws." He defended Senate File 542 as creating more career opportunities for young Iowans, and pointed to provisions that removed Iowa Code sections allowing children as young as 10 to engage in migrant labor or street work. He characterized the extended working hours to 11 pm in the summer as "very reasonable for the lifestyles of today's youth," given that many teenagers socialize until past 11pm. As for the enforcement actions, Dickey asserted that "For decades nearly two dozen states, including DC, have youth employment laws that are out of sync with federal standards and DOL has never made an issue of it."

Yours,

Laura

On Fri, Jun 14, 2024 at 8:15 AM Adrian Dickey <adrian@dickeytransport.com> wrote:

Ms. Belin,

Here is my quote. Please use it in its entirety. If you choose to alter it, please discuss with me first.

Adrian

"For decades nearly two dozen states, including DC, have youth employment laws that are out of sync with federal standards and DOL has never made an issue of it. Further, Democrats were in control of Iowa government multiple times during the existence of this conflict and they never changed the law."

The goal of this legislation was to create more opportunities for youth and more flexibility for them to pursue potential careers. This bill also improved current law by removing portions of the law that permits migrant labor and street work that were allowed as young as 10 years old.

While teenagers social schedules regularly go past 11 pm in the summer, SF542 only allows them to work up to 11pm during the summer. Those limits are very reasonable for the lifestyles of today's youth. Parental permission is also a key aspect of many of the changes in this bill. For a youth who desires and aspires to achieve more should be encouraged, not looked at negatively.

Despite the recent grandstanding by the federal government, this bill was a common sense update to Iowa's youth employment laws. After the last three and a half years, no one should be surprised by incompetence from the Biden Administration."

On Jun 13, 2024, at 1:28 PM, Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com> wrote:

Dear Senator Dickey,

I am seeking your comment on yesterday's Des Moines Register report on Iowa restaurants getting fined for employing young teenagers in a way that violates federal law, but is consistent with Senate File 542.

<https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/business/2024/06/12/crackdown-on-child-labor-laws-in-iowa-leads-to-fines-for-restaurants-department-of-labor/74057838007/>

Democratic legislators warned about this outcome during the Iowa Senate and House debate on SF 542, and U.S. Department of Labor officials warned Iowans last year that the new state law conflicts with federal regulations.

<https://www.senate.iowa.gov/democrats/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/DOL-Child-Labor-Law-Response.pdf>

<https://www.senate.iowa.gov/democrats/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/DOL-Letter-082423.pdf>

Do you believe Iowa employers should be able to violate federal law if the state legislature has approved such practices?

Shouldn't the legislature have avoided putting Iowa business owners in the position of potentially getting fined for employing teenagers in violation of federal law?

Thanks in advance for any comments or clarification you can provide.

Yours,

Laura Belin

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1705 Plaza Circle  
Windsor Heights, IA 50324  
(515) 276-6971

Website: <https://www.bleedingheartland.com>

Substack: <https://laurabelin.substack.com>

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