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RELEASE: Gov. Reynolds sets date for Iowa Senate District 16 special election

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To: laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Governor Kim Reynolds ★ Lt. Governor Chris Cournoyer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, October 9, 2025

MEDIA CONTACT: Mason Mauro, (515) 745-2840, mason.mauro@governor.iowa.gov**Gov. Reynolds sets date for Iowa Senate District 16 special election**

DES MOINES— Today, Governor Kim Reynolds issued a [proclamation](#) setting Tuesday, December 30, 2025, as the date for a special election in Iowa Senate District 16 following the death of Iowa State Senator Claire Celsi.

Iowa Code section 69.14 outlines the authority given to the governor to set a special election.

Celsi passed away on Monday, October 6, 2025. She was first elected to the Iowa State Senate in 2018 and served on several legislative committees, including the Senate Government Oversight Committee as its ranking member. Iowa Senate District 16 includes parts of West Des Moines, Clive and Windsor Heights.

The proclamation setting the date of the special election can be found online and reads as follows:

SPECIAL ELECTION PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Office of State Senator for Sixteenth (16th) State Senate District of the Iowa General Assembly, as defined by section 41.2(16) of the 2025 Iowa Code has become vacant by reason of the death of Iowa State Senator Claire Celsi on October 6th, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KIMBERLY K. REYNOLDS, Governor of the State of Iowa, by the power and authority vested in me by law, do hereby proclaim and direct that a special election to fill said vacancy shall be held within said District on:

TUESDAY, THE THIRTIETH (30TH) DAY OF DECEMBER, 2025 A.D.

WHEREFORE, all electors within the Sixteenth (16th) State Senate District will take due notice and the Dallas and Polk County Commissioners of Elections shall give official notice as provided in section 39.6 of the Iowa Code.

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