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IOWA CITY Press-Citizen

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PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Bracing for another tuition hike

How much more Iowa students pay?

Celia Brocker
 Ames Tribune
 USA TODAY NETWORK

The Iowa Board of Regents is considering a tuition hike despite the Iowa Legislature's attempt to freeze similar decisions.

The board is considering a 3% tuition

increase for fiscal year 2027 at Iowa State University, the University of Iowa and the University of Northern Iowa (UNI).

Meanwhile, a pair of bills that would freeze tuition for students while they attend state universities is making its way through the Iowa Legislature.

Senate File 2227 and House File 2362 would freeze tuition for resident students entering their first year at a public

See **TUITION**, Page 6A



A graduation cap is decorated in the theme of "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" at the University of Iowa College of Education commencement ceremony May 15, 2025.

JULIA HANSEN/IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN



'Friend to all' Parker Sutherland remembered at memorial

Jessica Rish
 Iowa City Press-Citizen | USA TODAY NETWORK

The Little Hawk Arena at City High School was packed to capacity to honor the late Parker Sutherland, a City High alum, University of Northern Iowa football player, and a person best described as a "one of one."

Sutherland died Saturday, Feb. 14, two days after he collapsed during warm-ups at a morning workout on Thursday, Feb. 12.

On Sunday, Feb. 22, two days before what would have been Sutherland's 19th birthday, hundreds of friends, family,

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Pallbearers carry Sutherland's casket out of Little Hawk Arena following his celebration of life service.

TOP: Sutton Koller gives a eulogy for Parker Sutherland during a celebration of life service Feb. 22 at Iowa City High's Little Hawk Arena in Iowa City.

PHOTOS BY JULIA HANSEN/IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN

STATE BUDGET

Senate bill to avert shutdowns pushes debate

Marissa Payne
 Des Moines Register
 USA TODAY NETWORK

Iowa lawmakers often say their most important job each year is to pass a state budget.

But a proposal advancing in the Iowa Senate would, for the first time, allow state government funding to continue into a new fiscal year if lawmakers fail to strike a budget deal by June 30.

The idea has broad ramifications on how the budgeting process could work in the future — and who would have leverage to set or veto funding priorities.

Republicans say the move would prevent shutdowns in Iowa like the historic 43-day federal stalemate over health care policy that Congress voted to end in November.

But Democrats insist it would encourage lawmakers to leave the negotiating table instead of resolving their differences on state spending, permitting them to renege on their chief responsibility.

Republicans passed the bill, Senate File 2385, through the Senate State Government Committee on Feb. 18 on a party-line vote.

The party has held control of the Iowa House, Senate and governor's office since 2017. But the proposal comes as Iowa prepares for an open governor's race in 2026, where Democrat

See **BUDGET**, Page 6A

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