A top priority for ICMHA is to make mental wellness for older adults a priority for public policy makers. As such, ICMHA supports legislation which increases the number of qualified professionals who can provide care to older Iowans with mental illness. The following are bills passed in the last legislative session which expand resources to improve mental health treatments.

**HF 2734**
- This bill requires an allocation of $159,700 from the Community Capacity appropriation for a University of Iowa initiative to expand and improve the mental health treatment and services workforce.
- The state mental health institute at Cherokee will also receive $140,300 to expand and improve the workforce engaged in mental health treatment and services.

**HF 2780**
- This bill designates $354,000 for an increase in the number of mental health workers.
- It includes $500,000 for the reestablishment of a Division within the DHS for mental health and disabilities.
- This bill also provides $500,000 for mental health hospitalization costs that the State would not currently be required to pay.
- It also allocates $260,000 for assessment tools, without the cost of independent assessments and without including the impact of expected increases in services.

**SF 2217**
- This bill relates to programs and procedures involving compliance with privacy laws applicable to mental health, mental retardation, developmental disabilities, and brain injury services data.
- It also specifies medical assistance program eligibility for persons with a developmental disability or other special need and the persons’ families.