

HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 2532	House Committee:	PASSED on February 10 (21-0)
Committee:	Judiciary	House Floor:	PASSED on March 10 (93-0)
Floor Manager:	Rep. C. Thomson		PASSED on April 13 (90-0)
Date:	May 12, 2026	Senate Floor:	PASSED on April 6 (47-0)
Staff:	Amanda Wille (1-5230)	Governor:	PASSED on May 2, 2026

Probate

- HF 2532 makes changes to Iowa's probate and trust laws.
- Sets a new statute of limitations for nontestamentary transfers
- Changes how attorney fees and court costs are awarded in disputed probate proceedings.
- Addresses wrongful death damages and distribution.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1- Limitations of Actions- Period (614.1)

Non-will asset transfers made outside of probate must be filed within two years of the decedent's death.

Section 2-Probate Code- Fees- Expenses (new section 633.163)

Gives probate courts the authority to make one party pay costs, attorney fees, or other expenses in contested estate cases.

Section 3- Probate Code-Damages in Wrongful Death Cases

Updates how damages, awarded after a wrongful death, are divided.

Most damages go to the estate, unless they are for loss of "services and support" suffered by specific individuals.

The court decides how much goes to the estate versus directly to suffering family members.

The estate's share is used first to pay court costs, attorneys, and state claims. Anything left goes to heirs as directed by the will or law.

Section 4: Probate Code- Report and Inventory (633.361)

Gives personal representatives 120 days instead of 90 to file the official list of a decedent's assets with the court.

Section 5: Iowa Trust Code- Nature of Proceedings-Orders in Trust Code- Notice (633A.6203 new section)

Sets guidelines for court hearings involving trusts.

Clarifies which court orders are final or can be reviewed.

Reminds parties of what kind of notice is required for various trust proceedings.

Section 6: Effective Date

Section 5 is effective upon enactment.

Section 7: Applicability of Statute of Limitations and Attorney Fees Rules

Section 1 and section 2 of the bill only apply to cases where the person dies on or after July 1, 2026.

Amendment Analysis