



DSM USA
DES MOINES, IOWA

**2023 STATE LEGISLATIVE
AGENDA AND PUBLIC
POLICY GUIDE**



MISSION

The Greater Des Moines Partnership is the economic and community development organization that serves Greater Des Moines (DSM), Iowa. Together with 24 Affiliate Chambers of Commerce, more than 6,500 Regional Business Members and 365+ Investors,

THE PARTNERSHIP DRIVES ECONOMIC GROWTH WITH ONE VOICE, ONE MISSION AND AS ONE REGION.

Through innovation, strategic planning and global collaboration, The Partnership grows opportunity, helps create jobs and promotes the DSM region as the best place to build a business, a career and a future.

PUBLIC POLICY TEAM

- **Andrea Woodard**, *Senior Vice President of Government Relations and Public Policy*
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GOVERNMENT POLICY COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

- **Government Policy Council Chair**
Robert Haus, Corteva Agriscience
- **Government Policy Council Vice Chair**
Anne Roth, Hy-Vee

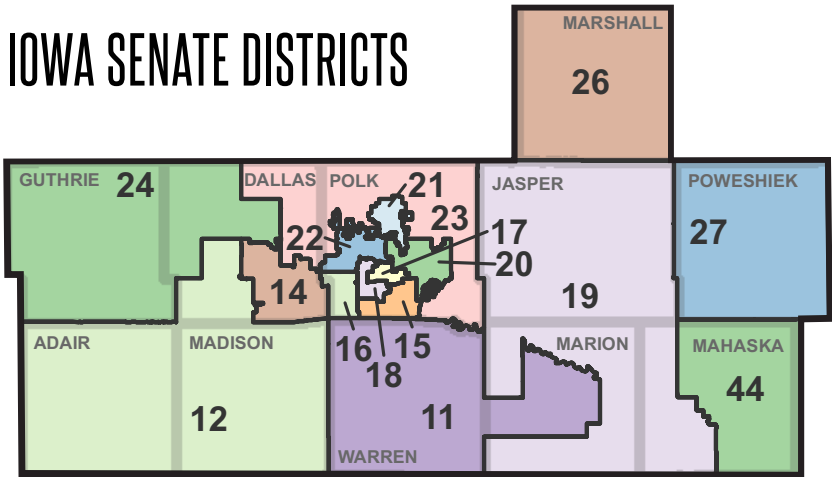
GOVERNMENT POLICY COUNCIL OVERVIEW

The Government Policy Council (GPC), made up of Partnership Investors and Affiliate Chamber Member organizations, shapes The Partnership's local, state and federal policy agendas.

* The Partnership's policy team works with Nyemaster Goode, P.C. for day-to-day lobbying at the Iowa State Capitol throughout the Legislative Session. Policy events exist as an opportunity to connect Partnership Investors and Members with policymakers, staff and issue experts.

THE PARTNERSHIP FOOTPRINT

IOWA SENATE DISTRICTS



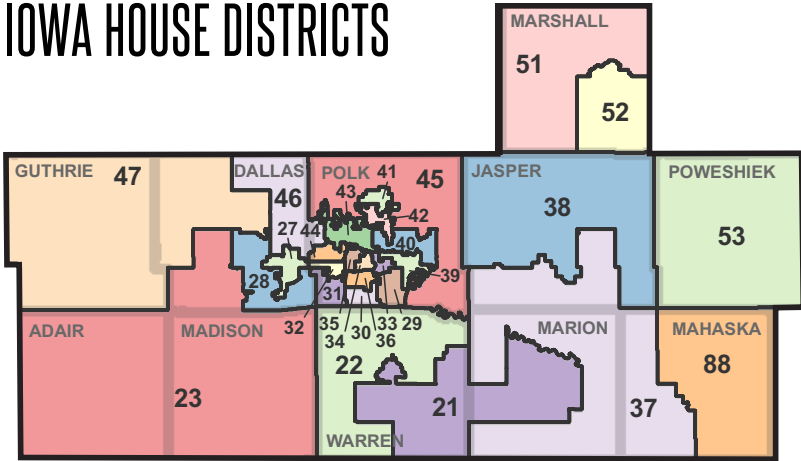
IOWA SENATE DISTRICTS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 11 – Senator Julian Garrett (R) | 21 – Senator Mike Boussetot (R) |
| 12 – Senator Amy Sinclair (R) | 22 – Senator Brad Zaun (R) |
| 14 – Senator Sarah Trone Garriott (D) | 23 – Senator Jack Whitver (R) |
| 15 – Senator Tony Bisignano (D) | 24 – Senator Jesse Green (R) |
| 16 – Senator Claire Celsi (D) | 26 – Senator Jeff Edler (R) |
| 17 – Senator Izaah Knox (D) | 27 – Senator Annette Sweeney (R) |
| 18 – Senator Janet Petersen (D) | 44 – Senator Adrian Dickey (R) |
| 19 – Senator Ken Rozenboom (R) | |
| 20 – Senator Nate Boulton (D) | |

This includes The Partnership's 11 counties only. For full district maps, go to legis.iowa.gov.

THE PARTNERSHIP FOOTPRINT

IOWA HOUSE DISTRICTS



IOWA HOUSE DISTRICTS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 21 – Representative Brooke Boden (R) | 38 – Representative Jon Dunwell (R) |
| 22 – Representative Stan Gustafson (R) | 39 – Representative Rick Olson (D) |
| 23 – Representative Ray Sorensen (R) | 40 – Representative Bill Gustoff (R) |
| 27 – Representative Kenan Judge (D) | 41 – Representative Molly Buck (D) |
| 28 – Representative David Young (R) | 42 – Representative Heather Matson (D) |
| 29 – Representative Brian Meyer (D) | 43 – Representative Eddie Andrews (R) |
| 30 – Representative Megan Srinivas (D) | 44 – Representative John Forbes (D) |
| 31 – Representative Mary Madison (D) | 45 – Representative Brian Lohse (R) |
| 32 – Representative Jennifer Konfrst (D) | 46 – Representative Dan Gehlbach (R) |
| 33 – Representative Ruth Ann Gaines (D) | 47 – Representative Carter Nordman (R) |
| 34 – Representative Ako Abdul-Samad (D) | 51 – Representative Dave Deyoe (R) |
| 35 – Representative Sean Bagniewski (D) | 52 – Representative Sue Cahill (D) |
| 36 – Representative Austin Baeth (D) | 53 – Representative Dean Fisher (R) |
| 37 – Representative Barb Kniff McCulla (R) | 88 – Representative Helena Hayes (R) |

This includes The Partnership's 11 counties only. For full district maps, go to legis.iowa.gov.

FEATURED PRIORITIES

WORKFORCE READINESS

Talent remains the top issue identified by Greater Des Moines Partnership Investors and Members. The Partnership supports state-led programs and policies, including Future Ready Iowa, that build Iowa's talent pipeline or provide work-based learning opportunities for students. In addition, The Partnership believes talent recruitment and retention initiatives are key to growing Iowa's workforce, including policies that ensure Iowa continues to be a welcoming place that is open for business.

REGULATORY REFORM

The Partnership believes that state government plays an important role in setting the stage for business competitiveness, small business growth and employment-generating investment by the private sector to promote economic growth, which is achieved by creating an environment conducive to business success. Therefore, The Partnership supports policies and efforts to reduce unnecessary regulatory hurdles that promote economic growth and job creation while minimizing the impacts of government actions on small businesses.

CHILD CARE

Access to affordable and quality child care remains a need for many Iowans. The Partnership supports additional investment and policies that increase child care options for families and promote stabilization in the child care workforce.

FEATURED PRIORITIES

HOUSING

The Partnership supports the increase of workforce housing options through funding and policies, such as an increase in the Workforce Housing Tax Credit, the State Housing Trust Fund and additional incentives for communities and employers to invest in new and existing housing for all Iowans.

PLACEMAKING

The Partnership supports ongoing funding for large-scale, regional and transformational projects through programs such as Destination Iowa and Iowa's Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund. Large investments in public-private partnership driven projects such as ICON Water Trails and the Pro Iowa Soccer Stadium and Global Plaza further the goal to attract and retain talent while transforming Iowa's communities, main streets and local economies.

DES MOINES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PROJECT

Expansion of the Des Moines International Airport is critical to the state's economic growth and necessary for a safe and smooth traveling experience for business and commercial passengers. The Partnership supports the existing state investment in the project and any ongoing opportunities to further showcase the need to complete the terminal project in Greater DSM.

2023 STATE POLICY AGENDA

I ECONOMIC GROWTH

A cornerstone of The Partnership is economic development and as a membership organization representing Greater DSM, The Partnership is focused on policies that support the recruitment and retention of business and talent throughout Iowa are paramount to a strong economy. Therefore, The Partnership supports:

- A tax structure that encourages business growth and reflects the principles of neutrality, simplicity and predictability, along with protection of existing tax exemptions and economic development tools, including the preservation of Iowa's corporate single-factor income tax formula.
- A streamlined, efficient low-tax environment and a modernized tax structure reflecting neutrality, simplicity and predictability within all existing taxing entities.
- Local government tools to incentivize development and opposes any efforts to limit Iowa's tax increment financing law.
- The High-Quality Jobs Program and entrepreneurship programs like the Demonstration Fund, Innovation Fund and Angel Investor Tax Credit Program.
- Funding for Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) programs such as the Targeted Small Business Program and funding for the Iowa Small Business Development Center and Iowa Innovation Corporation.

- Research and development policies and funding through programs such as the Renewable Chemical Production Tax Credit, through restoring value to the Research Activities Credits, the bioscience platforms at Iowa State University and for projects within America's Cultivation Corridor that enhance and expand the region's agbioscience ecosystem.

I ENERGY

The Partnership supports comprehensive policies and balanced regulatory practices that ensure energy remains safe, affordable and reliable, promotes Iowa's renewable energy sources and avoids directives or cross subsidies. Specifically, this includes:

- Building transmission and other energy infrastructure projects necessary to deliver renewable energy through sources such as wind and solar.
- Research and development to improve traditional energy sources.
- Policies that support the biofuels industry.
- Expanded opportunities for carbon sequestration that creates new markets.

2023 STATE POLICY AGENDA

I TRANSPORTATION

The Partnership supports investment in a complete, multimodal transportation system that efficiently moves goods and people, creates jobs and spurs economic growth. To that end, The Partnership supports:

- Continued improvements to the existing Road Use Tax Fund (RUTF) to reallocate funding to more highly traveled primary roads and provide continued investment in Iowa's transportation system.
- The Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Commission's swapping process to allow federal transportation dollars to be exchanged for state transportation dollars.
- The funding formula for surface transportation funding established by the Transportation Investment Moves the Economy in the Twenty-First Century Fund (TIME-21).
- Designation of the Purple Heart Highway (U.S. 65/Iowa 5 Beltway) as part of the U.S. Interstate System.
- Funding for Iowa airports through the Vertical Infrastructure Program and other funding sources to ensure the completion of the Des Moines International Airport Terminal Project.
- Authorization of alternative revenue to diversify public transportation funding and reduce reliance on property taxes.
- Policies and programs that ease the introduction and widespread adoption of emerging technologies including electric

vehicle charging infrastructure, transportation network companies and technology necessary for autonomous vehicles.

- Continued investment for trails through the IDOT State Recreational Trails Program, Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) program and consideration for a funding mechanism for regionally coordinated development and maintenance of the trails network.
- Investment in on-street infrastructure and safe routes to school projects, as well as support for Complete Streets, with an overarching "Vision Zero" policy.
- Ongoing investment for the rail system through the IDOT Rail Revolving Loan and Grant Fund and the IDOT Passenger Rail Fund Program.

I COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Partnership supports investments in the types of infrastructure that support business, people and communities, including investment in arts, culture and heritage, recognizing the importance to economic development, tourism and the attraction and retention of a strong workforce. To that end, The Partnership supports:

- Continued funding for high performance network deployment for broadband, including efforts through the Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant Program.
- Additional funding for the Brownfield and Grayfield Redevelopment Program.



- An increase of housing options to address the existing housing shortage through increased investment in the State Housing Trust Fund, increasing the per unit limit and the annual allocation of credits to the Workforce Housing Tax Credit Program, a specially designed State Housing Tax Credit Program, home preservation programs and the Iowa Finance Authority down payment and closing costs programs.
- Comprehensive planning and the Iowa Smart Planning Principles.
- Continued improvement and further expansion of the Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program.
- Ongoing investment in placemaking programs such as the Destination Iowa program.
- Continued investment in arts and culture through the Department of Cultural Affairs, Iowa Arts Council and programs that connect arts and culture through education.
- Expansion of the Endow Iowa Tax Credit Program, including a one-time appropriation to clear the current waiting list.
- Maintaining the support for Iowa's gaming industry and tax rates.

2023 STATE POLICY AGENDA

I SUSTAINABILITY

The Partnership believes that investment in soil and water infrastructure is crucial to a healthy community and the foundation for a strong economy. Therefore, The Partnership supports:

- Funding of Iowa's Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund.
- Policies that provide liability protections to communities supporting outdoor recreation amenities for economic development and placemaking strategies, such as the use of port authorities.
- The effective use of public funds to encourage water quality monitoring at the watershed level by using technology and data to inform state investment within watersheds and investments in continued and expanded academic research of best practices, programs and policies.
- Policies and funding for the modernization of flood mitigation and resiliency strategies, water systems, source water protection and wastewater treatment, including increased investment in Iowa's Low-Head Dam Mitigation and Water Trails program.
- Regional watershed planning and ongoing funding to implement the plans through targeted conservation and flood mitigation practices, proactive approaches to optimize nutrient and other chemical applications and sustainable urban development.
- New and ongoing funding for research, prevention and mitigation of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and harmful algal blooms (HABs).
- Investment in watersheds and Watershed Management Authorities to improve surface and source water quality.



2023 STATE POLICY AGENDA

I EDUCATION

The Partnership believes a strong and aligned education system that delivers effective educational outcomes and proven workforce development programs is critical to Iowa's quality of life and are leading factors in recruiting business to Iowa. Therefore, The Partnership supports:

- Funding for 4-year-old preschool and early childhood education opportunities.
- A funding formula that includes weighting for poverty level and incorporating dropout prevention and funding for at-risk students in the foundation formula.
- Increased flexibility in teacher certification, accelerated approval of teachers who are credentialed in another state and expansion of programs to effectively address critical teaching shortages.
- Funding and initiatives that help students efficiently complete postsecondary degree or certificate programs, including funding for Iowa's Board of Regents and Community College system.
- Efforts and programs that expand college accessibility for Iowa's students and at public and private higher education institutions, including the Iowa Tuition Grant, Kibbie Grant, Iowa Scholars and the Future Ready Last Dollar scholarship program.
- Policies that will support The Partnership's Future Ready DSM 75x25 effort to ensure 75% of DSM working-age adults have

degrees, certificates and other credentials by 2025 including programs supported by the Iowa Skilled Worker & Job Creation Fund, increased funding for the STEM, work-based learning and Future Ready Iowa programming, and expanded Career and Technical Education (CTE).

I WORKFORCE

Talent recruitment and retention is a top priority for Partnership Investors and Members, impacting every industry and area of the state. To that end, The Partnership supports:

- Funding and strategies that increase affordable access to quality child care and promote stabilization in the child care workforce.
- Continued support for English as a Second Language (ESL) and English Language Learner (ELL) students and families.
- Programs and initiatives to help bridge the gap between immigrant talent and Iowa's existing workforce training programs, credentials and licensure.
- Increased supportive services for refugees to address the challenges and create efficient methods of resettlement for refugees in Iowa.
- Policies and programs that further employment opportunities for untapped talent pools such as veterans, returning citizens and foreign-born individuals.
- Tax credit programs and incentives that encourage students to remain in Iowa post-graduation.

2023 STATE POLICY AGENDA

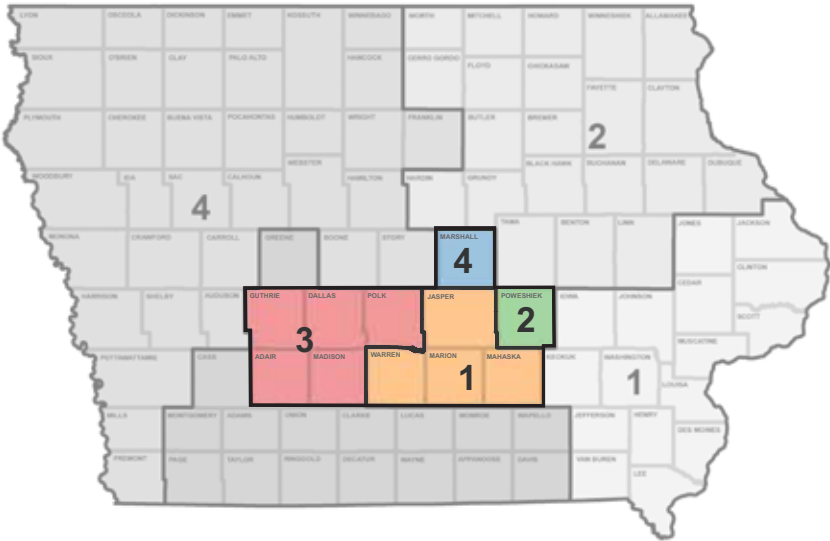
I HEALTH CARE

A strong health care system is integral to a healthy business ecosystem and therefore, The Partnership supports:

- Initiatives to address the health care workforce shortage including targeted student loan repayment programs for health care professionals, reimbursement rates that support recruitment and retention of direct care workers and funding for programs such as fellowships and residency programs.
- Increased Graduate Medical Education (GME) funding for additional graduate and dental education with a focus on priority needs such as primary care, fetal-maternal health, psychiatry and dentistry.
- A tort reform cap to address the costs of health care and health care workforce shortage.
- Sustainable rates and a sustainable funding formula to adequately fund adult and children's mental health services, including trained staff-to-field crisis hotline calls, mobile dispatch teams and case management services, early and ongoing prevention, residential services and community-based providers.
- Establishment of a sustainable Medicaid services funding formula to protect the health care needs of adults and children with chronic health conditions.
- Continuing to expand the availability of telehealth to ensure ongoing access for patients with payment parity for providers, including therapists without originating and distance site restrictions that are contained in Medicare.



2023 STATE POLICY AGENDA



IOWA'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

- Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA)
- Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA)
- Representative Mariannette Miller-Meeks, IA-1 (R)
- Representative Ashley Hinson, IA-2 (R)
- Representative Zach Nunn, IA-3 (R)
- Representative Randy Feenstra, IA-4 (R)

Learn more about The Partnership's federal advocacy efforts and annual DMDC trip at DSMpartnership.com/federalpolicy

2023 PARTNERSHIP ADVOCACY CALENDAR

The Partnership engages in state and federal advocacy, which takes place all year.

DATES AND EVENTS

★ **MONDAY, JAN. 9:** State Legislative Reception

THURSDAY, FEB. 16: Public Policy Issue Forum

JANUARY – APRIL: Virtual GPC Policy Updates

★ **TUESDAY, APRIL 4:** Day on the Hill

THURSDAY, APRIL 20: Public Policy Issue Forum

★ **APRIL/MAY:** Legislative Recap Update

★ **MAY 10 – 12:** DMDC 2023

SUNDAY, JUNE 4: Legislative Slowpitch Softball Game

THURSDAY, JUNE 15: Public Policy Issue Forum

THURSDAY, AUG. 17: Public Policy Issue Forum

★ **AUGUST:** Partnership 101

SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER: GPC Meetings

THURSDAY, OCT. 19: Public Policy Issue Forum

★ **DECEMBER:** State Legislative Breakfast

THURSDAY, DEC. 14: Public Policy Issue Forum

★ State Advocacy events

★ Federal Advocacy events

**Dates are subject to change*

The Partnership's advocacy efforts are a year-round effort and extend beyond this list of opportunities. Other events and ongoing state and federal advocacy opportunities will be shared via the GPC e-newsletter.

Sign up at DSMpartnership.com/e-newsletters.

DSM

USA



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