



## **White Paper**

### **Topic – Public Policy**

**November 2016 - Updated**

## **Why Public Policy?**

Central Iowa's Regional Workforce Development Board (CIWDB) has strategy and oversight responsibility for the workforce development system in the eight central Iowa counties of Boone, Dallas, Jasper, Madison, Marion, Polk, Story, and Warren. The Board is the voice for employers, the workforce systems and job seekers, and ensures the availability of services to assist employers and workers in meeting workforce development needs.

State and federal public policy has an influence on how the workforce development system can provide services. Therefore, the CIWDB must monitor and often times influence the public policy landscape, in order to ensure that Central Iowa's workforce and economic development systems are serving both employers and employees and job seekers. Education of elected officials and the public is the tool used to inform rather than to lobby. The CIWDB is in a unique position to leverage all resources in order to make the most effective and efficient community decisions and investments.

## **Potential Policy Partners**

The Central Iowa Workforce Development Board has many potential community and state and national partners in public policy advocacy. Below is a list of sample partners involved with workforce policy whom the CIWDB can partner, such as:

- Association of Business and Industry
- Association of Iowa Workforce Partners
- Des Moines Area Community College
- EDGE – Education Drives Our Greater Economy
- Greater Des Moines Partnership
- Iowa Association of Community College Presidents
- Iowa Business Council
- Iowa CareGivers Association
- Iowa Skills2Compete
- Master Builders of Iowa
- National Skills Coalition
- Organized Labor
- United Way of Central Iowa

- Workers
- And numerous other businesses and community partners

### **Decision Making Process**

Any legislative agenda items considered by the CIWDB should meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Further the CIWDB's mission and goals for the workforce system
2. Assist employers with employment needs
3. Assist employees or job seekers with finding self-sufficient wages

Legislative items must be approved first by the Planning and Operations Committee, then the Executive Committee, and ultimately the Central Iowa Workforce Development Board. Appointed CIWDB staff should be entrusted to execute the approved legislative agenda.

### **Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Rules**

1. Iowa Chapter 68B
2. Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 351