



Harrison County Development Corporation

Fourth Quarter 2023

Thoughts from the Director.....

HCDC Board of Directors

Dr. Jack Gochenour
Chairman

Jason Sherer
Vice-Chairman

Joan Martens
Secretary/Treasurer

Sue Cogdill

Mary Hamer

Mary Grubb

Gary Guge

Efficient government. A number of people who would say those two words do not go together. Iowa is now in the process of undertaking steps, to streamline governmental departments and effectively use tax payer dollars. Many times, when dealing with a situation, it has been necessary to go from one state agency to another and then another to obtain an answer or achieve a desired outcome. In an effort to reduce redundancy, there will now be only 16 different departments in the State of Iowa.

Information explaining the streamlining and changes undertaken to achieve this process are in this edition of our newsletter. Remember by working together we can accomplish great things. Let's make it happen!



State Realignment in a Nutshell

37 → 16 | Cabinet departments reduced

513 | Vacant positions eliminated

\$18M+ | Saved in 2023 (nearly \$3M from general fund) after vacant positions eliminated

\$214M+ | Estimated total alignment savings over 4 years

HCDC Staff

Renea Anderson,
Executive Director

Rhonda McHugh,
Admin. Assistant

Government Alignment Overview

The following is from the Governor's office explaining the new government alignment overview. It was provided by :

Molly Severn

Deputy Chief of Staff,
Office of the Governor, State of Iowa

Gov. Kim Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg

When state government operates efficiently and effectively, the result is better service to its people and better stewardship of taxpayer dollars. Since taking office, Governor Reynolds has leveraged opportunities to streamline government and improve efficiency. Building upon those successes and recommendations from the Governor's Economic Recovery Advisory Board, she has directed a thorough assessment of all executive branch agencies to improve organizational and operational alignment, elevate service to Iowans, and sharpen the state's competitive edge.

Why alignment?

It's been nearly 40 years since the state of Iowa has conducted a comprehensive, enterprise-wide assessment of government operations and structure. Since then, the needs and expectations of Iowans have changed.

Before passage, Iowa had 37 executive branch cabinet agencies, significantly more than our neighboring states and best practice.

Arkansas, Mississippi, and Oklahoma all have populations and budgets like Iowa, but just 15 cabinet members.

Iowa's per capita expenditures exceed those of similar size and larger bordering states. Our cost is \$2,000 more per capita than that of Illinois, a state four times our population.

Iowa's state government is too big, too expensive, and too siloed by department.

How does alignment improve state government and benefit Iowans?

Reducing the size of government saves money for taxpayers and the state.

Bringing departments with similar business functions together improves efficiency, decreases cost, and elevates service.

Centralizing similar programs into a single agency with the resources and expertise to achieve the best outcomes ensures Iowans get the support they need.

Consolidating common technology improves operations and reduces expenses.