
Executive Department
of Iowa

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER ELEVEN

(AMENDMENT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER THREE)

WHEREAS, Article IV, section 9 of the Constitution of the State of Iowa provides that the Governor shall ensure the laws are faithfully executed; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative has been tasked with finding concrete solutions to challenges and opportunities facing Iowa's rural communities; and

WHEREAS, it has successfully crafted policies that positively impact rural communities, through grant funding, creative programming, and advocacy that drives investment, growth, and connectivity to rural Iowa; and

WHEREAS, this includes a wide range of grants to rural communities such as; innovation grants to address rural food deserts and scarcity of other critical services; grants for child care planning, housing assessments, leadership and technical expertise; an innovative pilot program in Iowa United First Aid, which tests the crowdsourcing of medical volunteers in an emergency; support for broadband connectivity and much more; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to periodically review and update the purpose, scope, and operation of programs to maximize effectiveness and efficiency;

NOW THEREFORE, I, KIMBERLY K. REYNOLDS, Governor of the State of Iowa do hereby declare the State of Iowa will be well-served by taking a new, innovative approach to addressing the needs of its rural residents, and I hereby **ORDER** the restructuring of the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative.

Section One: Purpose

I. The Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative is tasked with sparking innovation to forge opportunity and prosperity in rural Iowa.

II. The Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative will function as a "startup incubator" for rural policy, by starting and scaling innovative policy ideas and programming. Additionally, the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative will support rural communities by building partnerships to foster strategic collaboration with key stakeholders; educating and advocating on emerging trends, strategic opportunities, evaluating processes and performance of existing programming through the Initiative; and recommending policy to the Governor.

Section Two: Organization and Operation

I. The Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative will partner with the Iowa Rural Development Council to carry out the goals and functions of the Initiative. The Honorary Co-Chairs of the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative will be the Lieutenant Governor and a representative from the Iowa Rural Development Council appointed by the Governor.

II. In addition to the Co-Chairs, the Board of the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative will consist of 25 members. Members will be selected by the Governor, five of which will be recommended by the Iowa Rural Development Council from its membership. Members will serve staggered, two-year terms. Each member will serve at the pleasure of the Governor and will serve without compensation in an advisory capacity. The Initiative shall achieve the

reduced membership of 25 members through attrition of expiring membership by August 30, 2024.

- III. The Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative will be led by an Executive Committee consisting of the co-chairs and five board members, to be named by the Governor.
- IV. The Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative will prepare an annual report of recommendations, results, accomplishments and impacts and deliver to the Governor.
- V. Staffing and administrative assistance for the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative will be provided through the shared efforts of the Office of the Governor, Center for Rural Revitalization within the Iowa Economic Development Authority, the Iowa Rural Development Council, and by other persons or organizations from time to time as necessary or appropriate.

Section Three: Miscellaneous

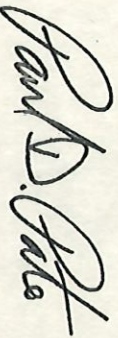
- I. All departments, agencies, boards, or other political subdivisions of state and local governments will cooperate fully with the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative to the extent required by law. The Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative may seek the expertise and services of individuals and entities outside of its membership for research, advice, and other needs as necessary or appropriate to accomplish its mission.
- II. All work of the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative will be done in a manner consistent with the laws and regulations of the State of Iowa, and of the laws and regulations of the United States of America.
- III. This Executive Order will be interpreted in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. If any provision of this Executive Order is found to be invalid, unenforceable, or otherwise contrary to applicable law, then the remaining provisions of this Executive Order, as applied to any person or circumstance, will continue in full force and effect, and will not be affected by such finding of invalidity or unenforceability. This Executive Order is not intended to supersede any laws, regulations, or collective bargaining agreements in place as of its effective date.
- IV. This Executive Order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, by any party against the State of Iowa, its departments, agencies, or political subdivisions, or its officers, employees, agents, or any other persons.
- V. The directive in this Executive Order will only apply prospectively of its effective date.
- VI. Executive Order Number Three issued on July 18, 2018, is hereby amended and superseded by this Executive Order, which shall be in full force and effect in lieu thereof.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO
SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE
AFFIXED AT DES MOINES, IOWA THIS 19TH DAY
OF OCTOBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO
THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE.


KIMBERLY K. REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



PAUL D. PATE
SECRETARY OF STATE