

IOWA AND INDUSTRY

2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Voice of Iowa Business

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The Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) has been the Voice of Iowa Business since 1903. Its mission is to provide a strong, unified voice for business and industry on issues affecting Iowa employers. ABI is comprised of member companies representing all industries and sizes.

ABI's 2024 legislative priorities reflect the goals of business and community leaders across lowa's 99 counties.

Workforce

ABI supports innovative solutions and incentives to help businesses and employees overcome barriers to employment, such as childcare and adequate and available workforce housing. ABI supports legislative efforts to recruit, retrain and retain talent in the state. ABI encourages the Legislature to continue funding Future Ready lowa, workbased learning opportunities, apprenticeship programs, and other initiatives that will help upskill our existing workforce and prepare students for the careers of tomorrow. Further, as part of ensuring a qualified workforce, ABI encourages the Legislature to support policies conducive to safe workplaces that allow employers to address drug and alcohol use.

Taxes

Policymakers have made significant strides in enhancing lowa's tax climate over the last several years. Given the amount of tax dollars currently in the Taxpayer Relief Fund and the ongoing prudent budgeting by lawmakers, ABI encourages the Legislature to continue reducing individual and business tax burdens, including property taxes.

Regulatory Reform

ABI members strive to comply with a wide scope of regulations at the local, state and federal levels. These regulations can often overlap, be outdated or are overly burdensome. Therefore, ABI supports:

- Streamlining permitting requirements and processes, in particular environmental, reducing cost and time for businesses and the state.
- Modernizing notification requirements for employment drug testing.
- Reviewing and eliminating policies and regulations that hinder small business expansion.