

## **262B.22 Technology and commercialization resource organization.**

1. The general assembly finds and declares that the public good requires that Iowa successfully participate and compete in the emerging world economy. A technology and commercialization resource organization is established to formulate and implement plans and programs for the core platform areas and to facilitate their commercial application within the state.

2. The technology and commercialization resource organization shall receive recommendations for research projects which have commercialization potential from institutions of higher learning under the control of the state board of regents. In cooperation with commercialization experts in the private sector, the organization shall analyze research project submissions and make recommendations regarding which projects should receive funding and how much funding such projects should receive. The recommendations of the organization shall be forwarded to the state board of regents. The state board of regents shall review the recommendations and may approve, deny, or modify the recommendations, but the state board of regents shall not change the primary focus of the proposal. The state board of regents may award financial assistance to approved research projects.

3. A technology and commercialization resource organization shall be incorporated under chapter 504. The organization shall not be regarded as a state agency, except for purposes of chapter 17A. A member of the board of directors is not considered a state employee, except for purposes of chapter 669. A natural person employed by the organization is a state employee for purposes of the Iowa public employees' retirement system, state health and dental plans, and other state employee benefit plans and chapter 669. Chapters 8, 8A, and 20, and other provisions of law that relate to requirements or restrictions dealing with state personnel or state funds, do not apply to the organization or any employees of the board of directors or the organization except to the extent provided in this chapter.

4. The board of directors of the organization shall consist of eight voting members as follows:

*a.* The president of the state board of regents.

*b.* The three members of the economic development subcommittee of the state board of regents.

*c.* The chief technology officer of the state.

*d.* One member selected by a biosciences development organization designated by the department of economic development pursuant to section 15G.111, subsection 2.

*e.* The chairperson of the advanced manufacturing steering group of the department of economic development.

*f.* The chairperson of the information solutions steering group of the department of economic development.

5. The members of the board of directors shall annually elect a president of the board from the board membership. A vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority. Members are eligible for actual expense reimbursement while fulfilling duties of the board.