

**COMMITTEE MINUTES for
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Date: *February 10, 2025*

Location: *RM 22*

Convened: *11:05 AM*

Adjourned: *12:40 PM*

Attendance Roll Call:

Present: Senators Lofgren-CH, Dickey-VC, Dotzler-RM, Quirmbach, Sires

Absent:

Excused:

Chair Senator Lofgren called the meeting to order at 11:03. The clerk took the roll silently. The minutes from the last meeting on February 3rd, were approved as distributed. Senator Lofgren introduced the first presenter, Jo Kline, J.D. (Doctor of Law) and founder of the Iowa Institute for Health Literacy. Dr. Kline spoke about the crisis of healthcare access facing Iowans. She shared current and projected data on our healthcare workforce, and the issues that we are and will be facing in providing affordable, accessible healthcare for all Iowans. She shared a 3-pronged strategy for how to address the problems focusing on the main element that we can control, which is the demand, and how we can help to create engaged, health literate Iowans. Senator Lofgren then introduced Luke Hoffman. Luke spoke about the replication of a 2012 UNI study on cycling and trails in Iowa that was just completed. He was proud to share that Iowa is considered the World Capital of Trails. He shared that the study includes information about the economic impact, health impact, a regional analysis and 5 case studies to look at the state-wide impact that cycling and our trail system has on our state and on our people. Chair Lofgren then introduced IFA and IEDA Director, Debi Durham and Chief Legislative Policy Strategist, Deanna Triplett. Director Durham shared recent data and statistics regarding community development, housing, tax credit programs and more as well as the successes, areas of concern and recommendations her department has proposed for moving our state forward. Senators asked questions following each presentation. With no other business to come before the committee, Senator Dotzler moved to adjourn at 12:40.

Senator Mark S. Lofgren

Paula Lofgren, Committee Secretary