

216A.1 Department of health and human services — human rights — purpose.

1. The department of health and human services shall be responsible for all of the following:

a. Community advocacy and services, with the following offices:

- (1) Office of Latino affairs.
- (2) Office on the status of women.
- (3) Office of persons with disabilities.
- (4) Office of deaf services.
- (5) Office on the status of African Americans.
- (6) Office of Asian and Pacific Islander affairs.
- (7) Office of Native American affairs.

b. Community action agencies.

c. Criminal and juvenile justice planning.

2. The purpose of the department under [this chapter](#) and as otherwise provided by law is to ensure basic rights, freedoms, and opportunities for all by empowering underrepresented Iowans and eliminating economic, social, and cultural barriers.

3. The department shall implement the comprehensive strategic plan approved by the board under [section 216A.3](#) and shall issue an annual report to the governor and the general assembly no later than November 1 of each year concerning the operations of the department relating to responsibilities for human rights.

[86 Acts, ch 1245, §1201](#)

[C87, §601K.1](#)

[87 Acts, ch 115, §70; 88 Acts, ch 1277, §27; 89 Acts, ch 83, §78; 90 Acts, ch 1180, §2; 91 Acts, ch 50, §2; 91 Acts, ch 109, §8](#)

[C93, §216A.1](#)

[2004 Acts, ch 1020, §2; 2008 Acts, ch 1184, §38; 2010 Acts, ch 1031, §101, 170; 2023 Acts, ch 19, §285](#)

See also [§7E.6](#)

Minority impact statements, see [§2.56](#), 8.11

Section amended