

421—1.3(17A,216A) History. The department was originally conceived in 1987 as an umbrella agency for several agencies that had previously operated independently and reported directly to the governor.

In 1993, the department's statutory provision in Iowa Code chapter 601K was transferred to chapter 216A.

As part of the government reorganization and efficiency bill in 2010 (2010 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2088), the department has streamlined its administrative functions and budget processes to operate as one department in a strategically cohesive manner. The director is appointed by the governor and has general supervision over the administration and operation of the department and its divisions. Administrators of the divisions are appointed by and report to the director. Ten divisions were consolidated into three divisions within the department: the division of community action agencies; the division of criminal and juvenile justice planning; and the division of community advocacy and services. Seven divisions devoted to advocacy for various populations were redesignated as offices, which are included within the division of community advocacy and services. Except for the commission of Native American affairs, all commissions within the division of community advocacy and services are limited to seven voting members. The human rights board is created within the department.

[ARC 6101C, IAB 12/29/21, effective 2/2/22]