



State of Iowa

Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 27

- WHEREAS, the conduct and ethics of our state employees have long been governed by legislative act, administrative rule and procedure, and departmental policy; and
- WHEREAS, while sections of the Iowa Constitution and Code dealing with conflicts of interest and the prevention of undue influence have served well, some sections are so new as to be untried and others were enacted over 100 years ago and are understandably interpreted differently from time to time and give rise to duplications and conflicts; and
- WHEREAS, the Iowa Code does not provide for periodic review of these Iowa statutes, it would be healthy to have clarification to assure continuing confidence on the part of the public; and
- WHEREAS, in fairness to state employees in all branches of government, they should be provided with a clear definition of ethical conduct as it pertains to their employment;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert D. Ray, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby establish the Iowa Task Force on Government Ethics to review policy including statutes, rules, regulations and interpretations pertaining thereto for state employees and to assist them in avoiding conflicts of interest within their assigned areas of jurisdiction.

Said Iowa Task Force on Government Ethics shall forthwith proceed to:

1. Determine what should be contained in already understood codes of conduct for state employees within each employee's assigned area of jurisdiction.
2. Review existing Iowa law, recent court decisions, agency rules, procedures and policies defining what, if any, changes should be made to correct duplications, conflicts, ambiguities and excesses.
3. Recommend to the Governor any changes in legislation, policy, or administrative practices it might deem advisable to assure a strong and effective statewide policy for all employees in state government.
4. Determine whether a periodic review process should be scheduled and if so, in what manner.

5. Formulate an ongoing response process for timely interpretation of laws, policies, and procedures concerning matters of ethics and employee conduct available, upon demand, to all state employees; and
6. Submit a report to the Governor on matters outlined above prior to the commencement of the next legislative session.

The members and chairperson of the Iowa Task Force on Government Ethics shall be appointed by the Governor with consideration given to both major political parties, public and private enterprise and the news media.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines this 14th day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred seventy-seven.


GOVERNOR



test:


SECRETARY OF STATE