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SENATE FILE 113

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RAGAN, KREIMAN, and HOLVECK

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act creating an office of science and technology within the  
2 department of economic development.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SF 113  
ECONOMIC GROWTH

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 15.121 OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND  
2 TECHNOLOGY.

3 1. a. An office of science and technology is created  
4 within the department.

5 b. The department shall be administered by a science  
6 advisor who shall be appointed by the governor subject to  
7 confirmation by the senate and shall serve at the pleasure of  
8 the governor. If the office of the science advisor becomes  
9 vacant, the vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as  
10 provided for the original appointment.

11 c. The governor shall select an appointee for the office  
12 of the science advisor from recommendations submitted by the  
13 state board of regents or the Iowa economic development board.

14 2. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise  
15 requires:

16 a. "Office" means the office of science and technology  
17 created in subsection 1.

18 b. "Science advisor" means the science advisor of the  
19 office or the science advisor's designee.

20 3. The mission of the office shall be to do all of the  
21 following:

22 a. To be the advocate of the state for scientifically  
23 based high technology business.

24 b. To establish the scientific and technological goals of  
25 the state.

26 c. To identify the best scientific and technological  
27 development to spur job creation and growth.

28 d. To identify the technological initiatives that can be  
29 transferred from the public sector into the private sector.

30 4. a. The office, in cooperation with federal and state  
31 laboratories, state regents institutions, and private  
32 organizations with similar interests, shall strive to provide  
33 services vital to entrepreneurs or provide referral  
34 information to those entities most likely to be of assistance  
35 to entrepreneurs.

1 b. The office shall strive to do all of the following:

2 (1) Coordinate all state and federal research projects  
3 with particular attention to potential commercial  
4 applications.

5 (2) Establish a statewide clearinghouse procedure through  
6 which all research scheduled for potential commercialization  
7 would be categorized and prioritized according to its  
8 relationship to the state's economic development strategies.

9 (3) Coordinate the identification of all pertinent  
10 research with the state board of regents, regents  
11 institutions, and the department.

12 (4) Make recommendations to the state board of regents,  
13 the governor, and the general assembly regarding the funding  
14 of strategic research.

15 5. The duties of the science advisor shall include, but  
16 not be limited to, all of the following:

17 a. Manage the internal operations of the office and  
18 establish guidelines and procedures to promote the orderly and  
19 efficient administration of the office.

20 b. Serve as a bridge between the high technology business  
21 community, the universities under the control of the state  
22 board of regents, community colleges, and state agencies. The  
23 focus shall be on the infrastructure needs of the high  
24 technology business community with the mission of growing  
25 Iowa's economy and family incomes.

26 c. Serve as the advisor to state governmental entities  
27 regarding high technology business opportunities.

28 d. Monitor appropriate regulations, appropriations, and  
29 new development in the administration of similar activities in  
30 the state, in other states, by the federal government, or in  
31 foreign countries. The office shall collect information and  
32 data prepared by other state agencies related to those  
33 activities and provide referral and assistance to interested  
34 persons and agencies.

35 e. Cooperate with any person involved in high technology

1 activities to standardize regulations and coordinate programs,  
2 in order to increase administrative effectiveness and reduce  
3 administrative duplication.

4 f. Implement policies and procedures designed to  
5 facilitate communication among persons involved in high  
6 technology activities.

7 g. Assist state agencies, federal agencies, or commercial  
8 enterprises or commodity organizations that are located in or  
9 desiring to locate in this state with high technology issues,  
10 including support of public research relating to high  
11 technology activities.

12 h. Prepare an annual report to the general assembly  
13 regarding high technology activities. The report shall  
14 include a review of research and research results, areas of  
15 study with promising potential, a summary of initiatives in  
16 other states, and an analysis of state and federal regulations  
17 and programs. The office shall regularly inform the governor  
18 and the general assembly regarding its operations and programs  
19 administered, including financial reports concerning funding  
20 of the programs.

21 i. Formulate long-range strategic plans to guide state  
22 investment in applied research, development, and commercial  
23 transfer of selected scientific and technological innovation.

24 j. Seek the cooperation of the department, the state board  
25 of regents, and regents institutions in implementing this  
26 section.

27 EXPLANATION

28 This bill creates a new office of science and technology  
29 within the department of economic development.

30 The bill provides that the mission of the office is to be  
31 the advocate of the state for scientifically based high  
32 technology business, to establish the scientific and  
33 technological goals of the state, to identify the best  
34 scientific and technological development to spur job creation  
35 and growth, and to identify the technological initiatives that

1 can be transferred from the public sector into the private  
2 sector.

3 The bill provides that the office, in cooperation with  
4 federal and state laboratories, state regents institutions,  
5 and private organizations with similar interests, shall strive  
6 to provide services vital to entrepreneurs or provide referral  
7 information to those entities most likely to be of assistance  
8 to entrepreneurs. The bill provides that the office shall  
9 strive to coordinate all state and federal research projects;  
10 establish a statewide clearinghouse procedure; coordinate the  
11 identification of all pertinent research with the state board  
12 of regents, regents institutions, and the department of  
13 economic development; and make recommendations to the state  
14 board of regents, the governor, and the general assembly  
15 regarding the funding of strategic research.

16 The bill provides that the science advisor of the office of  
17 science and technology shall manage the internal operations of  
18 the office; serve as a bridge between the high technology  
19 business community, regents universities, community colleges,  
20 and state agencies; serve as the advisor to state governmental  
21 entities regarding high technology business opportunities;  
22 monitor appropriate regulations, appropriations, and new  
23 development in the administration of similar activities in the  
24 state, in other states, by the federal government, or in  
25 foreign countries; cooperate with any person involved in high  
26 technology activities to standardize regulations and  
27 coordinate programs; implement policies and procedures  
28 designed to facilitate communication between persons involved  
29 in high technology activities; assist state agencies, federal  
30 agencies, or commercial enterprises or commodity organizations  
31 that are located in or desiring to locate in this state with  
32 high technology issues; prepare an annual report to the  
33 general assembly regarding high technology activities;  
34 formulate long-range strategic plans to guide state investment  
35 in applied research, development, and commercial transfer of

1 selected scientific and technological innovation; and seek the  
2 cooperation of the department of economic development, the  
3 state board of regents, and regents institutions.

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