

House File 2076 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BILL)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing an Iowa innovation council in the
2 department of economic development.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 15.102, Code Supplement 2009, is amended
2 by adding the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 6A. *“Targeted industries”* means the same as
4 defined in section 15.411, subsection 1.

5 Sec. 2. Section 15.117, Code 2009, is amended to read as
6 follows:

7 **15.117 Chief technology officer.**

8 The governor shall appoint a chief technology officer
9 for the state. The chief technology officer shall serve
10 a ~~four-year~~ two-year term and shall have national or
11 international stature as a senior executive at a technology
12 business in one of the targeted industries. ~~The chief~~
13 ~~technology officer shall coordinate the activities of the~~
14 ~~technology commercialization specialist employed pursuant to~~
15 ~~section 15.115. The chief technology officer shall serve as~~
16 ~~a spokesperson for the department for purposes of promoting~~
17 ~~to private sector businesses the technology commercialization~~
18 ~~efforts of the department and the research and technology~~
19 ~~capabilities of institutions of higher learning in the state.~~

20 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 15.117A Iowa innovation council.

21 1. An Iowa innovation council is established within the
22 department. The department shall provide the council with
23 staff and administrative support. The department may expend
24 moneys allocated to the innovation and commercialization
25 division in order to provide such support. The department may
26 adopt rules for the implementation of this section.

27 2. The council shall consist of the following members:

28 a. Twenty-seven voting members as follows:

29 (1) Twenty members selected by the board to serve staggered,
30 two-year terms beginning and ending as provided in section
31 69.19. Of the members selected by the board, seven shall be
32 representatives from businesses in the targeted industries
33 and thirteen shall be individuals who serve on the technology
34 commercialization committee created in section 15.116, or
35 other committees of the board, and who have expertise with the

1 targeted industries. At least ten of the members selected
2 pursuant to this subparagraph shall be executives actively
3 engaged in the management of a business in a targeted industry.
4 The members selected pursuant to this paragraph shall reflect
5 the size and diversity of businesses in the targeted industries
6 and of the various geographic areas of the state.

7 (2) One member, selected by the governor, who also serves on
8 the Iowa capital investment board created in section 15E.63.

9 (3) The director of the department, or the director's
10 designee.

11 (4) The chief technology officer appointed pursuant to
12 section 15.117.

13 (5) The person designated as the chief information officer
14 pursuant to section 8A.104, subsection 12, or, if no person
15 has been so designated, the director of the department of
16 administrative services, or the director's designee.

17 (6) The president of the state university of Iowa, or the
18 president's designee.

19 (7) The president of Iowa state university of science and
20 technology, or the president's designee.

21 (8) The president of the university of northern Iowa, or the
22 president's designee.

23 *b.* Four members of the general assembly serving two-year
24 terms in a nonvoting, ex officio capacity, with two from the
25 senate and two from the house of representatives and not more
26 than one member from each chamber being from the same political
27 party. The two senators shall be designated one member each
28 by the president of the senate after consultation with the
29 majority leader of the senate, and by the minority leader of
30 the senate. The two representatives shall be designated one
31 member each by the speaker of the house of representatives
32 after consultation with the majority leader of the house of
33 representatives, and by the minority leader of the house of
34 representatives.

35 3. To be eligible to serve as a designee pursuant to

1 subsection 2, a person must have sufficient authority to make
2 decisions on behalf of the organization being represented.
3 A person named as a designee pursuant to subsection 2 shall
4 not name a designee nor permit a substitute to attend council
5 meetings.

6 4. The chief technology officer appointed pursuant to
7 section 15.117 shall be the chairperson of the council and
8 shall be responsible for convening meetings of the council and
9 coordinating its activities and shall convene the council at
10 least annually. The council shall annually elect one of the
11 voting members to serve as vice chairperson. A majority of
12 the members of the council constitutes a quorum. However,
13 the chief technology officer shall not convene a meeting of
14 the council unless the director of the department, or the
15 director's designee, is present at the meeting.

16 5. The council is not subject to the provisions of sections
17 69.16 and 69.16A.

18 6. The purpose of the council is to advise the department
19 on the development and implementation of public policies
20 that enhance innovation and entrepreneurship in the targeted
21 industries, with a particular focus on the information,
22 technology, and skills that increasingly dominate the
23 twenty-first century economy. Such advice may include
24 evaluating Iowa's competitive position in the global economy,
25 reviewing the technology typically utilized in the state's
26 manufacturing sector, assessing the state's overall scientific
27 research capacity, keeping abreast of the latest scientific
28 research and technological breakthroughs and offering guidance
29 as to their impact on public policy, recommending strategies
30 that foster innovation, increase new business formation, and
31 otherwise promote economic growth in the targeted industries,
32 and offering guidance about future developments in the targeted
33 industries.

34 7. The council shall do all of the following:

35 a. Create a comprehensive strategic plan for implementing

1 specific policies that further the purpose of the council as
2 described in subsection 6.

3 *b.* Review annually all the economic development programs
4 administered by the department and the board that relate to the
5 targeted industries and make recommendations for adjustments
6 that enhance efficiency and effectiveness. In reviewing the
7 programs, the council shall, to the greatest extent possible,
8 utilize economic development data and research in order to make
9 objective, fact-based recommendations.

10 *c.* Act as a forum where issues affecting the research
11 community, the targeted industries, and policymakers can be
12 discussed and addressed and where collaborative relationships
13 can be formed.

14 *d.* Coordinate state government applications for federal
15 funds relating to research and economic development affecting
16 the targeted industries.

17 *e.* Conduct industry research and draft documents that
18 provide background information for use in decision making by
19 the general assembly, the governor, the department, and other
20 policymaking bodies within state government.

21 EXPLANATION

22 This bill establishes an Iowa innovation council within the
23 department of economic development.

24 The bill amends the term and duties of the chief technology
25 officer appointed pursuant to Code section 15.117 and provides
26 that the chief technology officer is the chairperson of the
27 council.

28 The council consists of 27 voting members. Twenty of the
29 members are selected by the economic development board to
30 serve staggered two-year terms. Of the members selected by
31 the board, seven are representatives from businesses in the
32 targeted industries and 13 are individuals who also serve on
33 the technology commercialization committee created in Code
34 section 15.116, or other committees of the board, and who
35 have expertise with the targeted industries. At least 10 of

1 the members selected by the board must be executives actively
2 engaged in the management of a business in a targeted industry.
3 The remaining seven members consist of the following: one
4 member, selected by the governor, who also serves on the Iowa
5 capital investment board, the director of the department, or
6 the director's designee, the chief technology officer, the
7 chief information officer from the department of administrative
8 services, and the presidents of the regents universities or
9 their designees.

10 There are four legislative members serving on the council
11 in a nonvoting, ex officio capacity: two from the senate and
12 two from the house of representatives. These four members are
13 appointed by majority and minority leadership and there may
14 not be more than one member from each chamber from the same
15 political party.

16 The chief technology officer is responsible for convening
17 meetings of the council and coordinating its activities. The
18 council must annually elect one of the voting members to serve
19 as vice chairperson. The chief technology officer cannot
20 convene a meeting of the council unless the director of the
21 department, or the director's designee, is present at the
22 meeting.

23 The purpose of the council is to advise the department on the
24 development and implementation of public policies that enhance
25 innovation and entrepreneurship in the targeted industries,
26 with a particular focus on the information, technology, and
27 skills that increasingly dominate the twenty-first century
28 economy.

29 The bill provides that the council is not subject to the
30 political affiliation and gender balance requirements of Code
31 sections 69.16 and 69.16A.

32 The bill provides that the council must: create a
33 comprehensive strategic plan for implementing specific policies
34 that further the purpose of the council; review annually
35 all the economic development programs administered by the

1 department and the board that relate to the targeted industries
2 and make recommendations for adjustments that enhance
3 efficiency and effectiveness; act as a forum where issues
4 affecting the research community, the targeted industries,
5 and policymakers can be discussed and addressed and where
6 collaborative relationships can be formed; coordinate state
7 government applications for federal funds relating to research
8 and economic development affecting the targeted industries;
9 conduct industry research and draft documents that provide
10 background information for use by the general assembly, the
11 governor, the department, and other policymaking bodies within
12 state government.