

ELDER AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF

Betty L. Grandquist, executive director; 236 Jewett Building, Des Moines 50309; 515-281-5187

ALYCE M. ELMITT, Des Moines, 1993

VENNETTA M. FIEDLER, Spencer; term expires 1992

EDWIN GANTZ, Albia, 1993

SEN. NORMAN GOODWIN, DeWitt; term expires 1991

REP. PATRICIA HARPER, Waterloo; term expires 1991

HERBERT HAAS, Oelwein, 1991

CLEMMIE HIGHTOWER, Clinton, 1993

SEN. EMIL HUSAK, Toledo; term expires 1991

MARGUERITE STOCKSTAD, Dunlap; term expires 1992

GEORGE STRAIT, Iowa City; term expires 1991

ELMER H. VERMEER, Sioux Center; term expires 1991

The Department of Elder Affairs was first created as the Commission on the Aging by the 61st General Assembly. In 1986, the responsibilities of the Commission were included in the duties of the Department of Elder Affairs. The Department was established under the "Elder Iowans' Act," which sets forth the state's commitment to its elders and their dignity, independence, and rights. The department is an advocate for elder Iowans and is responsible for developing a comprehensive and coordinated system of services and activities for older people through 13 designated area agencies on aging across the state. Within the department is a long-term care coordinating unit with responsibility for developing a long-term care plan for Iowa.

An eleven-member commission is a policy-making body with seven members appointed by the governor, two by the House and two by the Senate for four-year terms. The commission designates the area agencies on aging and approves and monitors the area plans for the elderly. The governor appoints an executive director subject to confirmation by the Senate.

The basic concerns of the department include income, health, housing, educational opportunities, employment, transportation, nutrition, volunteer opportunities, recreational activities, spiritual well-being, and community involvement in the problems of older Iowans.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Richard G. Freeman, director; 1000 E. Grand Ave., Des Moines 50319; 515-281-5387

The Iowa Department of Employment Services (DES) is committed to the development and maintenance of a healthy and prosperous Iowa economy. DES provides a wide range of services and programs related to the Iowa workplace.

The department's Division of Industrial Services informs the public regarding rights under workers' compensation laws, monitors compliance with the laws, and adjudicates disputed workers' compensation claims for benefits.

The Division of Labor protects the safety and health of Iowa workers and the general public, and administers worker protection legislation.

The Division of Job Service provides an efficient and effective labor market exchange and administers unemployment insurance programs that provide benefits to the involuntarily unemployed. DES also provides the people of Iowa, especially key decision makers, with current labor market information enabling them to make informed economic decisions.

Industrial Services, Division of

David E. Linquist, industrial commissioner; 1000 E. Grand Ave., Des Moines 50319; 515-281-5934

The Workers' Compensation Law was enacted by the 35th General Assembly in 1913. The industrial commissioner administers this law. Iowa was one of the first states to provide benefits for injuries, occupational diseases, and occupational hearing loss sustained by industrial workers. Injuries resulting in death, permanent disability, or temporary disability must be reported to the commissioner. If an agreement as to compensation cannot be reached, either the employee or employer may request a hearing before a deputy commissioner in a county of the judicial district where the injury occurred. Decisions are reviewed by the commissioner and may be appealed to the District Court and the Supreme Court. Settlement agreements or awards may