

GWEN RUBENOW, Cedar Rapids, term expires 1995  
 RAY RUTTER, Fort Madison, term expires 1997  
 CHRISTOPHER WASS, West Des Moines; term expires 1997  
 LOIS WEIHE, Sioux City; term expires 1996  
 WILLIAM WRIGHT, Denison; term expires 1995  
 KRISTINE YOUNG, Pleasant Hill; term expires 1997

The State Council on Vocational Education was created by the 63rd General Assembly in 1969. This council advises the State Board of Education on the development and administration of the state for vocational education. It conducts a biennial evaluation of vocational education. At least one public hearing is conducted annually.

## **ELDER AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF**

*Betty L. Grandquist, executive director; 236 Jewett Building, 914 Grand Ave., Des Moines 50309; 515/281-5187*

BERTRUM BIDNE, Northwood; term expires 1999  
 ALYCE M. ELMITT, Des Moines; term expires 1997  
 VENNETTA M. FIEDLER, Spencer; term expires 1996  
 HAROLD DAVIS, Sioux City; term expires 1997  
 CLEMMIE HIGHTOWER, Clinton; term expires 1997  
 SEN. EMIL HUSAK, Toledo; term expires 1997  
 REP. PATRICIA HARPER, Waterloo; term expires 1997  
 SEN. SHELDON RITTMER, Dewitt; term expires 1995  
 MARGUERITE STOCKSTAD, Dunlap; term expires 1996  
 ELMER H. VERMEER, Sioux Center; term expires 1999

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.

An eleven member commission is the 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 area agencies. The governor appoints an executive director subject to confirmation by the Senate.

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

## **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

*Cynthia P. Eisenhauer, director; 1000 E. Grand Ave., Des Moines 50319; 515/281-5387*

The Iowa Department of Employment Services (DES) is dedicated to the economic security, productivity and safety of Iowa's workforce and workplace. DES responsibilities include protecting workers, assisting the unemployed and helping communities and employers respond to workplace dynamics.

The department's Division of Industrial Services informs the public regarding rights under workers' compensation, occupational disease and hearing loss 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 job insurance programs that provide benefits to the involuntarily unemployed.

In addition to these services, DES also provides the public, especially key decision makers, with current labor market information enabling them to make informed economic decisions.