	House	
David E. Heaton	Mount Pleasant	January 12, 2015
Mary Mascher	Iowa City	January 12, 2015

Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) was established to create a partnership between communities and state government departments (Iowa Economic Development Authority, Education, Human Rights, Human Services, Public Health, Management, and Workforce Development). This partnership serves as a catalyst to integrate and coordinate an early care, health, and education network of systems for children from birth through age five and their families.

The ECI State Board sets goals to empower communities to achieve desired results, develop collaboration to support a system, and advocate for public engagement. The board's role includes providing oversight, tracking, and reporting of the data on early childhood results and indicators; advocacy; and public awareness of the importance of early childhood issues. Current members of the ECI State Board include department directors for six state agencies, four legislators, and citizens. The ECI State Board is responsible for early childhood system development and the funding streams over which it has authority.

Thirty-nine early childhood areas operate throughout the state, representing all 99 counties. Each area has a citizen-led board to support activities to promote collaboration and develop systems in the community for young children and their families.

## MID-AMERICA PORT COMMISSION

§28K.1

214 North Fourth Street, Suite 3A, c/o Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission, Burlington 52601-5303; (217) 222-3111

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Ch 455A

Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines 50319; (515) 281-5385; www.iowadnr.gov

The Department of Natural Resources was established on July 1, 1986, by combining the Conservation Commission, the Department of Water, Air and Waste Management, the Geological Survey, and part of the Energy Policy Council.

The director is appointed by the Governor and requires Senate confirmation. Two commissions are created in the department: the Natural Resource Commission and the Environmental Protection Commission. Both commissions have broad authority to set policy and adopt administrative rules and standards for the management and protection of the state's natural resources. The director is responsible for the administration of the agency.

The agency is charged with the management and protection of the state's fish and wildlife, parks, forests, and preserves, and providing for public use of these resources. It also has jurisdiction over state-owned meandered lakes and streams. Additionally, the agency is responsible for improving and maintaining the quality of the state's water, air, and land resources. Floodplain management, water quality in public water supplies, air and water pollution control and enforcement, waste management, and assisting communities in grant applications in these fields are included in the department's functions.

Energy conservation and research, as well as data collection and reporting on the state's geological resources, are also functions of the agency.

To help meet these operational duties, the department also employs administrative support groups in public information, licensing, office management, data processing, and other similar roles.