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COMMERCE, REGULATION & LABOR

HOUSE FILE 2481  
BY REICHERT, SCHUELLER,  
MILLER, and WISE

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL FOR

1 An Act creating an Iowa housing council and making  
2 appropriations.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2481

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 16.191 IOWA HOUSING COUNCIL.

2 1. An Iowa housing council is created, consisting of  
3 twenty-one voting members, and four ex officio, nonvoting  
4 members. Not more than eleven of the voting members shall be  
5 from the same political party. At least one voting member at  
6 all times shall have been less than thirty years of age at the  
7 time of initial appointment. The governor shall appoint the  
8 voting members of the council listed in subsection 3,  
9 paragraphs "m" through "u", for a term of four years beginning  
10 and ending as provided by section 69.19, subject to  
11 confirmation by the senate, and the governor's appointments  
12 shall include persons knowledgeable of housing issues. A  
13 vacancy on the board shall be filled in the same manner as  
14 regular appointments are made for the unexpired portion of the  
15 regular term.

16 2. The four ex officio, nonvoting members shall be  
17 legislative members that are two state senators, one appointed  
18 by the president of the senate, after consultation with the  
19 majority leader of the senate, and one appointed by the  
20 minority leader of the senate, after consultation with the  
21 president of the senate, from their respective parties; and  
22 two state representatives, one appointed by the speaker and  
23 one appointed by the minority leader of the house of  
24 representatives from their respective parties. The  
25 legislative members shall serve two-year terms that coincide  
26 with the legislative biennium.

27 3. The twenty-one voting members of the council shall  
28 consist of all of the following:

29 a. The director of the department of economic development  
30 or the director's designee.

31 b. The director of the department of education or the  
32 director's designee.

33 c. The director of human services or the director's  
34 designee.

35 d. The attorney general or the attorney general's

1 designee.

2 e. The director of the department of human rights or the  
3 director's designee.

4 f. The director of the department of elder affairs or the  
5 director's designee.

6 g. The director of public health or the director's  
7 designee.

8 h. The director of the department of corrections or the  
9 director's designee.

10 i. The commissioner of public safety or the director's  
11 designee.

12 j. The director of the department of veterans affairs or  
13 the director's designee.

14 k. The director of the Iowa finance authority or the  
15 director's designee.

16 l. The director of the department of commerce or the  
17 director's designee.

18 m. A representative of community colleges selected by the  
19 Iowa association of community college presidents.

20 n. A representative from a statewide housing construction  
21 organization selected by the governor.

22 o. A representative from an organization focused on  
23 housing construction for minorities selected by the governor.

24 p. A representative from an organization advocating for  
25 cities selected by the governor.

26 q. A representative from an organization advocating for  
27 counties selected by the governor.

28 r. A representative from an organization advocating for  
29 realtors of Iowa selected by the governor.

30 s. A representative with expertise in mental health and  
31 the needs of persons with disabilities selected by the  
32 governor.

33 t. A representative from an organization advocating on  
34 housing issues in urban areas selected by the governor.

35 u. A representative from an organization advocating on

1 housing issues in rural areas selected by the governor.

2 4. Members of the council shall be allowed their actual  
3 and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their  
4 duties. All expenses shall be paid from appropriations for  
5 those purposes, except that legislative members shall be paid  
6 their expenses and per diem as provided in section 2.10. A  
7 voting member of the council may also be eligible to receive  
8 compensation as provided in section 7E.6.

9 5. The Iowa finance authority shall provide administrative  
10 services to the Iowa housing council.

11 6. The council shall form at least five subcommittees to  
12 concentrate on five areas of housing designated in subsection

13 7. Subcommittee membership shall consist of members of the  
14 council and any additional members deemed necessary by the  
15 council. The council may decide to form additional  
16 subcommittees as other needs arise. The subcommittees shall  
17 develop proposed legislation and policy dealing with housing  
18 issues that, upon approval by a majority of the voting members  
19 of the council, shall be forwarded as a recommendation to the  
20 governor and the Iowa finance authority.

21 7. The council shall form five subcommittees to focus on  
22 all of the following areas:

23 a. Households earning below fifty percent of the median  
24 income for the state, with particular emphasis on households  
25 earning below thirty percent of the median income for the  
26 state.

27 b. Low-income seniors and low-income persons with any form  
28 of disability, including but not limited to physical  
29 disability, developmental disability, mental illness, co-  
30 occurring mental illness and substance abuse disorders, or  
31 AIDS and AIDS-related conditions. For purposes of this  
32 section, "AIDS" and "AIDS-related conditions" mean the same as  
33 defined in section 141A.1.

34 c. Low-income and moderate-income persons unable to afford  
35 transportation or housing near work, and issues related to

1 adequate affordable housing to support economic growth and  
2 development of a community, including new construction,  
3 redevelopment, and urban renewal issues.

4 d. Low-income persons residing in existing affordable  
5 housing that is in danger of becoming unaffordable or lost,  
6 and persons determined to be or at risk of becoming homeless.

7 e. Affordable rental housing, access to available  
8 financing for housing, first time home buyers, and  
9 relationships between landlords and tenants.

10 8. a. The Iowa housing council shall adopt a biennial  
11 comprehensive plan on housing for purposes of advising the  
12 governor and the Iowa finance authority on housing issues, and  
13 providing a resource to help effect changes in policy and  
14 through legislation on homeless issues.

15 b. By January 1, 2009, the first biennial comprehensive  
16 plan shall be submitted to the general assembly, the governor,  
17 and the chairpersons of the standing committees on economic  
18 growth.

19 c. A biennial comprehensive plan shall include but not be  
20 limited to all of the following:

21 (1) Funding recommendations for housing construction,  
22 preservation, rehabilitation, and supportive services where  
23 necessary, related to the underserved population, including  
24 focus areas of the subcommittees of the council.

25 (2) Recommended state actions that promote the  
26 construction, preservation, and rehabilitation of affordable  
27 housing by the private sector, the not-for-profit sector, and  
28 governmental entities and address any policies and practices  
29 that impede its promotion of construction, preservation, and  
30 rehabilitation of affordable housing.

31 (3) Specific suggestions, options, and incentives for  
32 local governments and municipalities to develop their own  
33 comprehensive housing plan for the community.

34 9. There is appropriated annually from the general fund of  
35 the state to the Iowa finance authority fifty thousand dollars

1 for administrative purposes related to this section.

2 Sec. 2. TRANSITION. For the transitional period beginning  
3 July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007, the composition of the  
4 voting members of the council shall be determined by the  
5 governor and shall be comprised of members of the homelessness  
6 advisory committee.

7 EXPLANATION

8 This bill creates an Iowa housing council and makes an  
9 appropriation.

10 The bill creates an Iowa housing council consisting of  
11 twenty-one voting members, and four ex officio, nonvoting  
12 members. The bill provides that members of the council shall  
13 be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the  
14 performance of their duties and may be eligible to receive  
15 compensation. The bill provides that the Iowa finance  
16 authority shall provide administrative services to the Iowa  
17 housing council.

18 The bill requires the council to form at least five  
19 subcommittees to concentrate on five certain areas of housing.  
20 Subcommittee membership shall consist of members of the  
21 council and any additional members deemed necessary by the  
22 council. The bill requires the subcommittees to develop  
23 proposed legislation and policy dealing with housing issues  
24 that, upon approval by a majority of the council, shall be  
25 forwarded as a recommendation to the governor and the Iowa  
26 finance authority.

27 The bill requires the Iowa housing council to adopt a  
28 biennial comprehensive plan on housing for purposes of  
29 advising the governor and the Iowa finance authority on  
30 housing issues, and providing a resource to help effect  
31 changes in policy and through legislation on homeless issues.  
32 The bill requires the first biennial comprehensive plan to be  
33 submitted to the general assembly, the governor, and the  
34 chairpersons of the standing committees on economic growth in  
35 both houses by January 1, 2009. The bill provides that a

1 biennial comprehensive plan shall include funding  
2 recommendations for housing construction, preservation,  
3 rehabilitation, and supportive services where necessary,  
4 related to the underserved population, including focus areas  
5 of the subcommittees of the council; recommended state actions  
6 that promote the construction, preservation, and  
7 rehabilitation of affordable housing by the private sector,  
8 the not-for-profit sector, and governmental entities and  
9 address any policies and practices that impede its promotion  
10 of construction, preservation, and rehabilitation of  
11 affordable housing; and specific suggestions, options, and  
12 incentives for local governments and municipalities to develop  
13 their own comprehensive housing plan for the community.

14 The bill appropriates annually from the general fund of the  
15 state to the Iowa finance authority \$50,000 for administrative  
16 purposes related to the council.

17 The bill provides that, for the transitional period  
18 beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007, the  
19 composition of the voting members of the council shall be  
20 determined by the governor and shall be comprised of members  
21 of the homelessness advisory committee.

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