



**IOWA
ASSOCIATION
OF BUSINESS
AND INDUSTRY**

2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Voice of Iowa Business
www.iowaabi.org

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The Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) has been the Voice of Iowa Business since 1903. Its mission is to provide a strong, unified voice for business and industry on issues affecting Iowa employers. ABI is comprised of member companies representing all industries and sizes in Iowa's 99 counties. ABI members employ more than 330,000 Iowans.

Employers are in the best position to attract and retain a qualified workforce. The Legislature should recognize and allow businesses to determine how to best run their enterprises.

Taxes

Policymakers have made significant strides in enhancing Iowa's tax climate over the last several years. ABI encourages the Legislature to turn its focus to property taxes by reducing the burden faced by all classes of payers.

The integrity of Iowa's unemployment insurance trust fund is strong because of sound public policy decisions and Iowa's good business climate. Therefore, ABI supports legislation that right-sizes insurance premiums collected through unemployment insurance taxes with the requirement to provide for unemployment claims.

Workforce

ABI supports innovative solutions and incentives to help businesses and employees overcome barriers to employment, such as childcare and available quality workforce housing. ABI supports legislative efforts to recruit, retrain and retain talent in the state. ABI encourages the Legislature to continue funding Manufacturing 4.0 grants, Future Ready Iowa, work-based learning opportunities, apprenticeship programs, and other initiatives that will help upskill our existing workforce and prepare students for the careers of tomorrow. Further, as part of ensuring a qualified workforce, ABI encourages the Legislature to support policies conducive to safe workplaces that allow employers to address drug and alcohol use.

Regulatory Reform

ABI members strive to comply with a wide scope of regulations at the local, state and federal levels. These regulations can often overlap, be outdated or are overly burdensome. Therefore, ABI supports:

- Streamlining permitting requirements and processes, in particular environmental, reducing cost and time for businesses and the state.
- Modernizing notification requirements for employment drug testing.
- Reviewing and eliminating policies and regulations that hinder small business expansion.
- Ensuring state agency collaboration with stakeholders during the rulemaking process