

# 2024 PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

The Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance and Greater Iowa City, Inc. annually recommend and support positions on key policy issues affecting our region and state’s economic growth. These positions and recommendations are made with significant input from our combined 2,000 members, investors, partners, and community stakeholders.

## GOAL: Incentivize Business Growth & Invest in Business Attraction

Tax structures and programs work best and lead to economic growth and job creation when simplified, predictable, and promote fairness and fiscal responsibility. Economic development incentives have been successfully leveraged to grow our economy and allow us to remain competitive. Incentives must be protected and updated to continue encouraging capital investment, entrepreneurship, and job creation in Iowa. In order for Iowa to be competitive, we must update our economic development incentives and policies to secure large scale investments.

Ongoing review and analysis of agency rules and regulations is essential to promote a business environment that fosters an entrepreneurial mindset and works to grow our regional economy. Small businesses, which contribute significantly to local economies and identities, need innovative solutions and resources to continue to grow. Finally, we must expand access to affordable, high-quality, and transparent health care services that do not overburden employers with costly regulations that prohibit their ability to grow.

Policy Solutions	Federal Policy	State Policy
Support and expand state and local tax incentive programs that lead to economic growth, job creation, further competition, innovation, workforce and development in both rural and urban areas. *	X	X
Support tax policy changes that alleviate the overly disproportionate burden on businesses and allow local governments to continue providing services and amenities employers depend on to stay competitive in retaining and attracting new residents and businesses.		X
Support policies that ensure a sustainable, reliable, safe and predictable supply chain of products, and keep costs down.	X	
Support policies that lead to a more affordable and flexible health insurance system for employers and employees, lessen the burden on small business owners, and increase transparency, access to unbiased information, and accountability for brokers.	X	X
Support new payment delivery models and access to capital that allow for innovation within the health care system, including long-term care facilities, and give our health care providers the flexibility to deliver care in new ways.	X	
Allow local governments and businesses the authority to address issues unique to their communities.		X
Support reform that provides liability protection to business and industry from frivolous lawsuits.	X	X

\*Featured Priority

To learn more, see our comprehensive 2024 state and federal public policy agenda for the ICR region at [www.cedarrapids.org](http://www.cedarrapids.org) or [www.greateriowacity.com](http://www.greateriowacity.com).

The Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance and Greater Iowa City strongly encourage elected officials, candidates, and citizens to be civil in discussions and debates on policy issues and political opinions. We are committed to leading by example.

