

# ***Voter Resource Guide***

# **2024**



**This Voter Resource Guide is intended to assist you with your decision-making process and was designed to be a resource to help make voting as easiest as possible for you. In the Voter Toolkit below, you can find your polling location, information on how to vote early, register to vote and much more.**

**Early voting begins on Wednesday, October 16. The toolkit below also helps you find early voting location. Other important dates and deadlines can be found below.**

## **Important Dates & Deadlines**

- **Early In-Person Voting takes place October 16 – November 4**
- **Last day to request an absentee ballot and vote by mail is 5:00 PM on Monday, October 21.**
- **Register to Vote or update voter registration before 5:00 PM on Monday, October 21. Otherwise, you can still register to vote on Election Day. Click here to learn about the requirements.**
- **Election Day Polling Place hours are from 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM. Bring your state issued ID/License!**

**When you go to the polls on or before Tuesday, November 5, we hope this Voter Resource Guide helps you make informed decisions about the candidates and issues on your ballot, as well as decide whether to amend Iowa's Constitution.**

## **Use this Election Toolkit to help you vote!**

**It's your opportunity to be heard, to hold elected officials accountable for their decisions and to have a say in the policies that affect the future of our community. VOTE!**

- **Confirm you are registered to vote here.**
- **Register to vote here.**
- **View your ballot here.**
- **Vote early by mail here.**
- **Vote early in person here.**
- **Find your Election Day polling place here.**

**This message is paid for by the Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance, 501 First St. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401. The executive director of the Economic Alliance is Doug Neumann. This message is not authorized by any candidate, candidate's committee or ballot issue committee.**

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# Candidates

## Listed from Linn County Election Services

### **House District 73**

Elizabeth Wilson (D)\*\*

### **House District 74**

Eric Gjerde (D)\*\*

### **House District 77**

Jeff Cooling (D)\*\*

### **House District 78**

Sami Scheetz (D)\*\*

### **House District 79**

Tracy Ehlert (D)\*\*

Barclay Woerner (R)

### **House District 80**

Aime Wichtendahl (D)

John Thompson (R)

### **House District 83**

Kent McNally (D)

Cindy Golding (R)\*\*

### **House District 84**

Tom Gerhold (R)\*\*

### **Senate District 40**

Art Staed (D)

Kris Gulick (R)

### **Senate District 42**

Charlie McClintock (R)\*\*

### **US House District 2**

Sarah Corkery (D)

Ashley Hinson (R)\*\*

\*\*Incumbent

### **Also on the Ballot**

Eligible Voting Age

Gubernatorial Line of Succession



**Elizabeth Wilson (D) (incumbent)**

**60 years old**  
**Financial Consultant**

**What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

I believe we must do more to support local businesses. Iowa has reduced the corporate tax rate, but we need to give those who are S Corps, sole proprietors and partnerships tax reductions or credits. We need to do this to level the playing field and to encourage people to start businesses in Iowa and to keep them here. We also need to provide incentives to keep more of our young people in Iowa. This would assist with our employment challenges.

**Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

I believe in order to collaborate, one must LISTEN to others to understand their position and motivation. That is accomplished by asking questions to fully understand the position. It is the first step in creating solid solutions. Then working together, you can create the

space where you already agree and seek to find optimal solutions in areas you differ. It is vitally important to evaluate solutions along the way to detect unintended consequences and create a way to measure success. I have used this methodology when working on numerous subcommittees of bills. We used this in the Iowa House this year to work on a bi-partisan approach to the use of the Opioid Settlement Funds. By the time the House approved the bill, we had complete bi-partisan support. ★

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## **No Opponent (R)**



## ★ Eric Gjerde (D) (incumbent)

45 years old

Patrol Officer for the Cedar Rapids  
Police Department

### **What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

It has been an honor of my life to represent Linn County residents in the Iowa Legislature the previous 4 years. I have and will continue to support businesses throughout Linn County and Iowa with my votes on the Iowa House floor and as a member of my committee assignments. My family has a long history in small business as they owned a century old grocery store in my hometown; working there each day instilled the value small businesses provide to their employees, their customers, and their community. I will continue to respect small businesses with my votes as a member of the Iowa State house.

### **Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

For the past four years I have worked with any legislator willing to work on legislation that is in the best interest of Iowa. To get things done for the citizens of Iowa bipartisanship has to be forefront in what we do each day in Des Moines. I found out early in my four years that if you do not care who gets credit, you can get a lot done. What I care is that Iowans have their best interests stood for and legislation that reflects that. I have written legislation and offered it to legislators on the other side

of the aisle because they had a better chance of getting the legislation through the cumbersome process. So much of what we do in the Iowa State House is bipartisan and much of the legislation passes unanimously. This has taught me that regardless of our political ideology there is so much we have in common, especially when we are working on meeting the needs of everyday Iowans and putting party over politics. I will continue to work with anyone who has a promising idea regardless of where they sit in the chamber or what letter is behind their name. ★

### **More Info**

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# **No Opponent (R)**



## ★ Jeff Cooling (D) (incumbent)

36 years old  
Union Electrician

### **What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

It has been an honor to serve the people of House District 77 the last two years. I will continue to support the local business community by advocating for any legislation that supports buy local and build local. I know that if the consumer is healthy it allows business to thrive within our community. I have lived in or near Cedar Rapids my entire life and I will continue to support legislation that makes Cedar Rapids a great place to live, work and be fulfilled.

### **Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

My approach is to listen first. I listen to the issue and I will listen for common ground and common goals. From there I can find consensus to build off of and work toward a bipartisan solution. In my first two years as a Representative I have been willing to work with anyone on legislation that is good for lowans. Many of the bills I was assigned in Transportation and State Government Committees recived bipartisan support when they reached the floor. lowans are trred of partisan nonsense and want us legislators to work together to make Iowa a better place. ★

#### **More Info**

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# No Opponent (R)



## **Sami Sheetz (D) (incumbent)**

28 years old

Union Organizer, Teamsters Local 238

### **What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

My primary goal during this term is to continue to work to make Iowa a place where young people want to build their futures, raise families, and invest in their careers. This starts with workforce development and creating an inclusive environment that reflects the values of the next generation. Unfortunately, many young people are turned off by the extreme policies coming out of Des Moines, which makes it harder for Iowa to retain and grow a talented workforce. I am working to change that by advocating for policies that promote inclusivity, opportunity, and economic stability.

By investing in workforce training and educational opportunities, I am focused on equipping Iowans with the skills they need to succeed in high-demand industries. My efforts aim to connect young people with job opportunities right here in Iowa, ensuring businesses can thrive with a skilled and motivated workforce. Additionally, I am pushing for policies that improve work-life balance and ensure Iowa is a place where people want to settle down, start businesses, and contribute to our communities.

### **Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members.**

#### **What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

Working across the aisle is essential for making meaningful progress. I believe that by focusing on common ground, we can achieve real solutions that benefit all Iowans. A recent example is my work on a school lunch bill that garnered bipartisan support, including 18 Republican co-sponsors. This legislation focused on ensuring children receive the nutrition they need, which is an issue that transcends party lines.

To reach consensus, I focus on shared goals and listen to differing perspectives to find a path forward. While we may not always agree on every issue, I am committed to collaborating with anyone who is willing to improve the lives of Iowans. It's about putting the needs of the people first and setting aside partisan differences to achieve real solutions. ★

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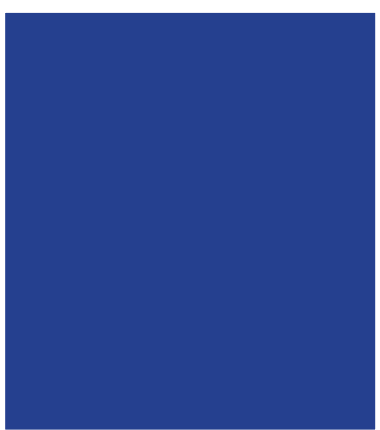
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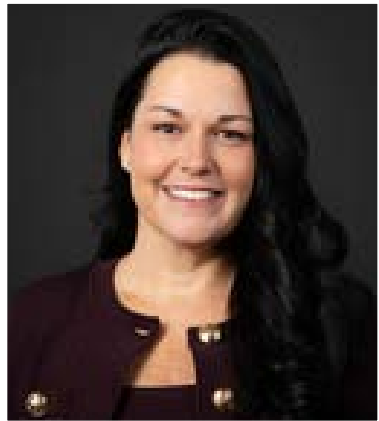
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# **No Opponent (R)**





## ★ Tracy Ehlert (D) (incumbent)

46 years old  
Early Childhood Educator/Small  
Business Owner

### **What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

As I seek a fourth term, my priorities remain the same. Education, healthcare and the workforce. I will continue a focus on children from cradle to career. Ensuring every Iowa child has a world class k-12 education and has success after graduation. I will continue to support trade programs, higher education and work towards ensuring that Iowans have access to good paying jobs.

For each child to be set up for success it must start with quality early childhood education. Quality early education has a high return on investment and directly correlates to better mental health outcomes, higher graduation rates, lower incarceration rates, and the potential to earn a higher income than peers that do not have those quality early education experiences. By supporting our education system, Iowa will have a skilled and educated workforce.

Supporting the workforce also means supporting the early childhood profession as they are the workforce behind our workforce. Addressing the childcare desert must be worked on so that parents can find the care they need for their children and go to work. When we address childcare, businesses can fill workforce shortages and have employees they can count on to be at work.

Healthcare is also a big priority. When Iowans have good paying jobs with good benefits (and accessible medical care) they can take care of their health needs, whether that be physically, mentally or emotionally. When they are healthy, they can be more successful at work and in life.

### **Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration is important to me. We can all learn from each other, and we all have different approaches to addressing our legislative work. When we collaborate, it provides better outcomes for our constituents. The more we work together the more we are building our relationships with our colleagues, and we can be more productive in our work. From day one in the Iowa House, building relationships across the aisle has been a priority for me and it has paid off. As a freshman legislator, I was able to pass my first bill and over the six years I have served, I have had many of my amendments and ideas incorporated into legislation supported by the majority party.

On a more local level, this last year all the Linn County Legislators (from both parties) have been getting together to host a series of listening posts. To date we have hosted events on childcare, veterans, mental health and will soon be hosting one on issues affecting older Iowans. This is helping us gather information from constituents and organizations and getting us started on issues during the interim before the next session starts. ★

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## ★ **Barclay Woerner (R)**

**53 years old**  
**Logistics management**

### **What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

I am focused on reducing individual taxes and property taxes, improving the quality of education for our children, and supporting law enforcement.

Families in Cedar Rapids are struggling to pay for groceries and fill their cars with gas. By reducing their tax burden we will provide them with the ability to repair their cars, take their families out for the evening, and start a small business.

A high quality of education is an important piece of recruiting employees to Cedar Rapids. Prospective employees want to know that their children will be provided with an education that will allow them to thrive as young men and women. Businesses will also be able to thrive as the educated workforce grows in the years to come.

Lastly, we all need to feel safe in our neighborhoods. A safe community is needed to allow businesses to flourish across Cedar Rapids. Owners are skeptical of investing in neighborhoods that may put their investment at risk.

### **Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

Taking to time listen, ask questions, and research are important to reaching a consensus. Everyone wants to have to their concerns heard, understood and addressed. My current job requires that I work with multiple small business owners to remove barriers that they have in helping their businesses grow and succeed. Often, I have to take time to understand the cause of their problems, research possible solutions, and then work through its implementation. ★

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**Aime Wichtendahl (D) (incumbent)**

**44 years old**

**Business Care Advocate - US Cellular**

**What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

I hope to bring common sense governance and as I have done with my term on the Hiawatha City Council. Perhaps the greatest need for our business community is the demand for workers and our state cannot hope to succeed if it is enacting policies that disincentives them from living in this state. It means getting government out of people's private lives and decisions. We should also develop defensible forgivable, loans for lowans who study in (but not limited to) fields such as healthcare where the demand for people is greater than our available pool of workers. We can also use target tax cuts and government investment to develop building of Iowa's business and industry. Additionally, being able to lower the cost of living from housing to child care will free put more money back into the local economy.

**Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members.**

**What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

The best example is my work on the Hiawatha City Council. I have worked with multiple councils and mayors of different backgrounds and political affiliations and we worked to achieve solutions that benefit the city – growing businesses, building new housing, and lowering the property tax rate. It's how government should work and that legacy is one I will continue in the State House. ★

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**★ John Thompson (R)**

**35 years old  
President, Salute to the Fallen**

**What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

I am committed to making transformative changes to our mental health system, starting with the elimination of unnecessary certificate of need requirements and the reopening of essential state facilities. Furthermore, I will drive legislative efforts to increase accessibility and provide specialized support to veterans and first responders. This comprehensive approach will not only improve the lives of these individuals but also have a positive impact on local businesses by maintaining a healthy, productive, and efficient workforce. My experience working with veterans who faced employment challenges due to mental health issues has highlighted the preventive potential of this legislation, and I am dedicated to turning this vision into reality.

**Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

Upon reflection of our nation’s foundational principles, it becomes clear that bipartisan collaboration is essential to effective legislation, ensuring that every constituent’s voice is heard and valued. Through my experience mediating disputes among estranged family members at veterans’ funerals and brokering compromises, I have developed a keen ability to seek out and capitalize on shared interests. Furthermore, as a father of five, I have honed my expertise in conflict resolution, empowering my children to navigate disagreements and arrive at solutions that benefit all parties. Recognizing that consensus is not always attainable, I remain resolute in my dedication to adhering to my core principles and constitutional oath, ever cognizant of the sacred trust bestowed upon me to serve the best interests of our nation. ★

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## ★ Kent McNally (D)

58 years old  
Electrician/Instructor with the IBEW  
405 JATC

### **What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

Living in Central City since 1999 I've have enjoyed small town atmosphere and community. I do believe the joy people find in these towns needs to stay while continuing to be Relevant in the County. I Love where I live and do not want to lose what I or others have built in these towns. Infrastructure I do believe is something that needs to continue making it accessible to all that venture out and live in these towns. Projects like Main Street Funding and Promoting Shopping locally have aided in the maintaining of these towns. I would look to promote and work on Funding activities where Towns that reinvented schools and other buildings to Commercial Store Fronts for Small Business such as my Wife's Art Studio at the CABA Center in Coggon. Shop Locally and Farmers Markets is not just a cute saying but actions I've taken and continue to do.

Avenues regarding other Funding through grants researching at the state level WIF's (water infrastructure funds) and CDBG's (Community Development Block Grant) programs available. On the Federal level CF's (Community Facilities) grants is something I would also look at.

### **Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

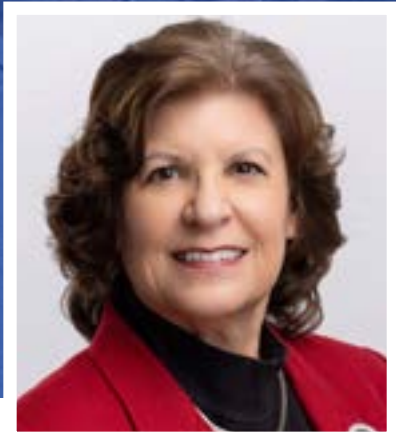
Civility, stability and common sense is one of my Major Platforms!!! I believe that is needed in Des Moines. If arguing, bickering and Partisan politics is all that goes on in Des Moines then NOTHING is getting done for lowans who Suffer the most because of the lack of Communication and Compromise. I have been Involved with the IBEW 405 for over 30 yrs. I have been involved at many levels one of most significant roles was being on the apprenticeship committee where Union members and Contractors worked together in a common goal for the betterment of the JATC program. I have since then become an instructor for 9 yrs. promoting this relationship. When it comes to getting everything you want that will never happen but everyone feeling they got a Fair Shake is Very possible I believe. ★

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**★ Cindy Golding (R) (incumbent)**

**72 years old  
Farmer/Small Business Owner**

**What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

Prior to serving in the State House, my position on the Leadership Council of National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) gave me opportunities to promote legislation beneficial to the business community. As a business owner myself, I understand the regulatory challenges, labor shortages, and other pressing issues. My 22 years on the Linn County Farm Bureau Board gave me insight into Iowa agribusiness issues. I have been able to utilize these experiences while serving my first term in the State House. As Vice Chair of Local Government committee and a member of the State Government committee, I was able to promote pro-business legislation and helped slow or stop those initiatives that would be detrimental. Based on my efforts during the session, I received the NFIB “Small Business Guardian Award” and the endorsement of ABL.

In the coming session, I will continue to work for the best economic environment for our local business community. I intend to work toward a revised real estate tax law. The current method causes tremendous uncertainty for all involved. I have heard from business owners, homeowners, city councils, and school boards. We need to revisit the entire method of funding local government that will give a measure of certainty to all involved. We are assessing unrealized gain on property, relying on a roll-back system that cannot be explained, then ultimately taxing that unrealized gain. In the current environment, no taxing authority accepts responsibility for the increasing tax burden. This must change.

**Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

Every time I share that over 80% of our legislation is passed with bi-partisan support, people are amazed. When we can have honest discussions – starting with where we agree – we can make significant progress toward solutions that work for all parties. Before serving in the House, I had several opportunities to represent my rural area as we worked toward compromise for difficult situations. The most notable was working with the USPS to determine “last line address” and delivery routes for rural delivery issues. We were told that “no one fights the Post Office and wins”. I was appointed to the group that worked together with the Postmaster General’s Office. When we moved past “fight” to “solve” we were able to find an equitable solution. Unfortunately, with compromise, no one gets everything they want, but this is the only way difficult situations can be resolved.

I worked diligently on the recent “Storm water & Topsoil” bill (SF455) that was supported by the developers but opposed by the cities. I held an impromptu meeting with the mayors in my district to understand their concerns. At the Capitol, I worked with stake holders and the floor managers in both the House and Senate to come up with a workable solution. The bill eventually passed with my suggestions include in the final language.★

# House District 84



★ **No Opponent (D)**



## ★ Tom Gerhold (R) (incumbent)

63 years old  
Research Associate

### **What do you hope to accomplish during your tern in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

I will continue to be a pro-business legislator and help businesses as much as possible if re-elected. Property tax rates are one area that I hope the legislature can improve for lowans. In 2023, the Iowa House passed legislation that dealt with easing the burden of property taxes increases, but it did not make it out of the Senate. Our proposal intended to put a limit on how much personal and commercial property tax increases, at 3% and 8%, respectively. Iowa ranks around 10th highest for property taxes nationally, and we can do better. Easing the financial burdens in a cautious and well-planned way will help keep and attract new businesses and families.

### **Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

My goal as a state representative is to do what is best for the people of the district and lowans. My approach is to try to look at a situation, listen, and see the pros and cons on both sides. For example, I was the floor leader on a bill that initially said drivers must yield to bicyclists

also in crosswalks, not just pedestrians. But, after talking with other Representatives and thinking about fellow Representative Josh Turek, who uses a wheelchair, I thought about other modes, such as baby buggies, skateboarders, etc., I revised the bill to include any “human-powered” device, called pedestrian conveyance. I had several members of the other party complement me, and Rep. Josh Turek personally emailed me to thank me on behalf of him and disabled lowans.

The Iowa legislature has had overwhelming bipartisan votes on bills. Out of approximately 275 bills voted on the House floor in 2024, only about 31 were party line votes, about 11%. I have voted on many bills that needed compromise between the Iowa House and Senate in order to pass. They were not perfect bills but were better than doing nothing. Most times, it’s better to have small victories than none at all. ★

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## ★ Art Staed (D)

75 years old  
Retired Educator

### **What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

As a former small business owner, I personally experienced and have come to understand many of the challenges that small businesses face. Small businesses are the primary engine of job creation, source of innovation and the long-term strength of Iowa's economy. I am a legislator who understands how legislative decisions impact small businesses and their plans for growth.

Small business investment incentives should be designed with bipartisan recognition of companies' critical contributions to the Iowa economy. In the next Session, I will support expanding the capital awards for small Iowa businesses and entrepreneurs and increase state funding for business-related research in partnership with Iowa's universities. New products, new companies and new jobs naturally follow innovation. And in Iowa, the lack of investment in research limits creativity and slows advances in Science and Technology. Also, many local businesses are struggling to find qualified entry-level employees because there's a skills gap. I support an acceleration of our workforce training and the funding to make this happen.

For many small businesses, it is crucial that employees have access to quality, affordable childcare. This continues to be a barrier for the workforce. The state should partner with businesses to provide more options for Iowans to be able to raise a family and work. The state should also be investing in housing policies that provide more affordable housing for the workforce.

### **Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

It's important to develop good relationships with colleagues in every party so that we address problems together, looking at solutions and working to improve the lives of Iowans. This is the approach that I take. Our bipartisan work is more commonplace than reported in the media. The vast majority of state legislation is passed with unanimous or near-unanimous support. Building relationships with fellow Senators, members of state government, and other stakeholders is crucial. Collaboration is necessary to achieve legislative goals and address the diverse needs of the people of Iowa.

Here are some recent examples of numerous bipartisan bills passed recently that included my support: Emergency Assistance HF684, Future Ready Iowa HF2629, Workforce Development HF2365, Telecommunications SF2373, Peace Officers HF2647, Child Care HF2485, Education SF2310 & HF2418, Companion Animal Protection HF737. ★

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# ★ Kris Gulick (R)

**65 years old**  
**Certified Public Accountant**  
**and Business Consultant**

## **What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

Cedar Rapids Metro area residents need a strong voice in the Iowa Senate Majority. We need a seat at the table when the Legislature is discussing issues that impact our urban area. I pledge to bring to Des Moines the same independent reasoning and decision-making that I was known for during my 12 years on the Cedar Rapids City Council. My experience and leadership roles on the council, Past President of the Iowa League of Cities, and a Certified Public Accountant and small business owner provides me with a unique background to serve our communities in the Iowa Senate. Following are issues that I will focus my efforts during my term in office:

- **Economic Development:** Economic development is a top priority for our area and all of Iowa. We must develop workforce attraction and retention strategies, retain businesses, and create entrepreneurial opportunities.
- **Educational Excellence:** Economic development requires a strong and successful public educational system. Our priority in education must be in the best interests of students. State government's responsibility is to fairly fund schools and support teachers across the state. I will listen to and advocate for parents and their children and encourage them to work with teachers to achieve the best educational outcomes for their students.
- **Quality of Life:** Every family should have access to high-quality public services, support, and resources. We do this through common-sense investment in infrastructure and community improvements.
- **Fiscal Responsibility:** I will be fiscally responsible with taxpayers' money and plan for present and future needs.

## **Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

Disagreement on an issue does not need to be divisive. Establishing relationships with individuals and organizations I

represent is a critical component of being an effective elected official. My record while serving on the Cedar Rapids City Council is very clear about my ability to work in a bipartisan and collaborative way regardless of whether all parties agreed upon the issue being debated. I worked with both parties at the state and federal level while lobbying for flood protection and other issues important to our communities.

As a council member, I was known for being willing to listen to others' viewpoints. Listening to alternative viewpoints allowed me to make better decisions. If I can argue the position of an opposing view as well as I can my own viewpoint, then I truly understand the issue. To do that I need to listen and understand what makes the individual think a particular way. One example was the location of the main library. There were a lot of different opinions both on the city council as well among citizens. I listened to viewpoints from citizens and my council colleagues. Ultimately the decision was made to locate the library next to Greene Square Park. While on the council, I had regularly scheduled meetings with constituents to get their input and feedback. I would expect to do the same in the Iowa Senate. I need the viewpoints from both sides and to collaborate with others to reach better public policy decisions. ★

### **More Info**

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# Senate District 42



**★ No Opponent (D)**



**Charlie McClintock (R) (incumbent)**

**54 years old**

**911 Manager for Cedar Rapids Police**

**What do you hope to accomplish during your tern in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

I am running several pieces of legislation this year. Many of them help to expand or improve the lives of veterans and public safety personnel.

Additionally, I am supporting additional tax incentives that would benefit the business and residential communities. This will include supporting legislation that helps with funding for training and hiring assistance. I have always supported our local businesses and was pleased to receive the “Friend of Iowa Business” endorsement from the PAC for the Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI).

**Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members.**

**What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

I have always worked in a bipartisan manner to achieve the best possible result for Iowa. Anyone who has followed my voting record or attended a forum where I have spoken knows that I work for all of the people, regardless of party.

Additionally, I take a commonsense approach to problem solving and pride myself on responding to people in a timely fashion. Our job as an elected official is to represent the people, and take their concerns forward to the legislature. We cannot effectively reach a consensus, or compromise, unless we consider all points of view. I have made this position perfectly clear through my actions in the Senate by supporting bipartisan legislation, introducing joint party legislation, co-signing minority party legislation, and voting against my caucus in favor of my district when necessary. ★

**More Info**

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## ★ Sarah Corkery (D)

49 years old  
Small business co-owner of Corkery & Corkery

### **What do you hope to accomplish during your term in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

As a small-business owner, I understand the needs and challenges of business. As a fiscally frugal Democrat, I know how to balance a budget and stretch a dollar. My goal is to help Iowa grow our economy, support small businesses and work with all businesses to identify needs that can be helped at a Federal level. This includes ways to reduce unnecessary oversight and make it simpler for businesses to comply with business rules and regulations.

### **Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

I worked for 17 years at ME&V (Mathis, Earnest and Vandeventer). My boss, Bryan Earnest, is a Republican. We worked together successfully and I was their top account executive for many years even though we disagreed on politics. I learned a lot about running a small business from him.

- After having breast cancer, I lobbied at a Federal Level to help pass the Metastatic Breast Cancer Access to Care Act. We successfully got (R) Sen. Joni Ernst to co-sponsor the bill and become the co-lead on the bill. We also got (R) Ashley Hinson to co-sponsor the bill on the day I entered the race against her.
- I raised \$1M to build an inclusive playground with another family who have been Trump-leaning Republicans.
- I worked in corporate life at Veridian Credit Union and understand a business model and what it takes

to have a positive ROI. I underspent my corporate marketing budget by more than \$1M the last few years.

- I accepted an invitation to Club 45 in Decorah to meet with Republicans. It was a positive and respectful conversation.
- As a lifelong Democrat, my first loyalty is to our country and to Iowans. I will vote to represent Iowan's interests when elected to Congress. ★

### **More Info**

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**★ Ashley Hinson (R) (incumbent)**

**41 years old  
Member of Congress, Former  
Broadcast Journalist**

**What do you hope to accomplish during your tern in office and how will it benefit the business community?**

My top priorities are improving our economy and helping working families keep more of their hard-earned money. I came to Congress to be a taxpayer advocate. Inflation is one of the top issues I hear from Iowans of all walks of life, and combating inflation to get our economy back on track is a top legislative priority for me in the next Congress. I have championed legislation to make tax relief permanent for working families and small businesses who are struggling under Bidenomics. I've also helped introduce bipartisan legislation (the Informed Lawmaking to Combat Inflation Act) to help rein in government spending that could worsen inflation and drive prices higher. I've also introduced legislation (the Red Tape Reduction Act) to get big government out of the way by rolling back onerous regulations that prevent growth and stifle economic opportunity. Additionally, I support extending the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act to provide certainty for families and businesses and keep our economy competitive globally.

I'm working across the aisle to help promote career and technical education and increase access to skills-based training programs to help address the pervasive workforce shortage. For example, I have introduced legislation (REAL Trucking Act) to allow 18 to 20-year-old truck drivers to be able to cross state lines as well as legislation to improve access to apprenticeship programs. Bridging the skills gap will help rebuild the workforce and ensure our long-term economic growth.

**Promoting bipartisanship and collaboration and encouraging our elected officials to work toward solutions is important to Economic Alliance members. What is your approach in working with people or groups that may disagree with your positions to reach consensus? Please provide examples.**

Iowans sent me to Congress to stand against the dysfunction and chaos in Washington, and I have consistently reached across the aisle to deliver for our communities. I've worked with my Democratic colleagues in a bipartisan manner on areas ranging from expanding access to Pell grants to boost our skilled workforce pipeline, to making tax deductions permanent for Main Street businesses and cracking down on China's trade crimes that disadvantage American workers and businesses.

I am also working across the aisle to improve child care access - a family issue and economic issue. I have introduced bipartisan legislation - the After Hours Child Care Act - to help expand child care access for those who don't work traditional 9 to 5 jobs.

I'll work with anyone who will work with me on solutions to the challenges we face. The best way to solve problems is through balance and bipartisanship, and I'll continue working across the aisle for Iowans. ★

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# ALSO ON THE BALLOT: TWO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS FOR VOTER APPROVAL

Each ballot in Iowa this Election has two proposed amendments to Iowa's constitution for voter approval. Voters in 2024 will find it on the back of their ballots under the title "Constitutional Amendments" that asks, "Shall the following amendment to the Constitution be adopted?"

## Proposed Amendment #1: Eligible Voting Age

*Summary: Provides for only U.S. citizens aged 18 or older and meeting state and county residency requirements to vote in all elections. Further provides that 17-year-olds who will be 18 years old by the General Election are eligible to vote in the primary election, subject to the same citizenship and residency requirements.*

*Background:*

- *If passed, this would codify in the state constitution that 17-year-olds who are 18 by the general election are allowed to vote*

*in primary elections. It would also change the voting age from 21 to 18 in the state constitution. These rights already exist through state law, and this amendment would align the constitution to the state law.*

- *It also includes a language change, replacing the wording that "every citizen of the United States" who meets voter requirements can participate in the state's elections to instead state "only a citizen of the United States" with needed qualifications can vote.*

## Proposed Amendment #2: Gubernatorial Line of Succession

*Summary: Provides that the lieutenant governor will act as the governor if there is a temporary disability of the governor. Further provides that the lieutenant governor or lieutenant governor-elect will be the governor or governor-elect in the case of resignation, death, permanent disability of the governor or governor-elect thus creating a vacancy in the office of lieutenant governor or lieutenant governor-elect, as appropriate.*

*Background:*

- *When then Lieutenant Governor Reynolds became governor in 2017 after then Governor Branstad stepped down to become U.S. Ambassador to China, she could not formerly appoint a Lieutenant Governor to fill her old spot, according to the state's attorney general at the time.*

- *Governor Reynolds appointed Adam Gregg to be Acting Lieutenant Governor for the remainder of the term, but Gregg was never in the line of succession until he and Reynolds were elected in 2018. During that interim period, the Senate President, not Gregg, would have filled the office of governor if something would have happened to the Governor.*
- *Approving this amendment would clarify the process and formally allow a lieutenant governor to take over and appoint someone to fill their former spot.*
- *While the measure received mostly bipartisan support when it passed through the Legislature, some opposed the process because it doesn't allow for Senate approval of the lieutenant governor, like other governor appointed positions.*

To put a legislatively referred constitutional amendment before voters, a simple majority vote is required in both the Iowa State Senate and the Iowa House of Representatives in two legislative sessions with an election for state legislators in between. The amendments both need a simple majority from voters to pass.



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