

Red Tape Review Rule Report (Due: September 1, 2025)

Department Name:	IEDA	Date:	11/5/24	Total Rule Count:	3
IAC #:	261	Chapter/ SubChapter/ Rule(s):	Chapter 30	Iowa Code Section Authorizing Rule:	2023 Iowa Acts, Senate File 559, 2024 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2432, and Executive Order 11
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PLEASE NOTE, THE BOXES BELOW WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE

What is the intended benefit of the rule?

The intended benefit of chapter 30 is to describe the eligible uses of funds appropriated to the empower rural Iowa program by 2023 Iowa Acts, Senate File 559 and 2024 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2432.

Is the benefit being achieved? Please provide evidence.

Yes. The authority is able to effectively administer the funds.

What are the costs incurred by the public to comply with the rule?

None.

What are the costs to the agency or any other agency to implement/enforce the rule?

IEDA staff time is required to provide staffing and administrative assistance for the empower rural Iowa initiative and its associated task force as well as to administer funds.

Do the costs justify the benefits achieved? Please explain.

Yes. The costs to the state to administer the funds are proportional to the activities incented.

Are there less restrictive alternatives to accomplish the benefit? YES NO

If YES, please list alternative(s) and provide analysis of less restrictive alternatives from other states, if applicable. If NO, please explain.

No less restrictive alternatives were identified.

Does this chapter/rule(s) contain language that is obsolete, outdated, inconsistent, redundant, or unnecessary language, including instances where rule language is duplicative of statutory language? [list chapter/rule number(s) that fall under any of the above categories]

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Yes. The chapter contains an outdated description of the task forces associated with the empower rural Iowa initiative. The task forces were consolidated by Executive Order 11. The implementation sentence should be updated to include 2023 Iowa Acts, Senate File 559, 2024 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2432, and Executive Order 11.

RULES PROPOSED FOR REPEAL (list rule number[s]):

None.

RULES PROPOSED FOR RE-PROMULGATION (list rule number[s] or include rule text if available):

CHAPTER 30
EMPOWER RURAL IOWA PROGRAM

261—30.1(90GA,SF559,2432) Purpose. The empower rural Iowa initiative was created by Executive Order Number 3 dated July 18, 2018, which directed the authority to provide staffing and administrative assistance for the initiative and its associated task forces. Executive Order 11 dated October 19, 2023, amended and superseded Executive Order 3 and restructured the initiative.

261—30.2(90GA,SF559,2432) Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

“*Authority*” means the economic development authority created in Iowa Code section 15.105.

“*Director*” means the director of the authority.

“*Empower rural Iowa initiative*” or “*initiative*” means the initiative created by Executive Order Number 3 dated July 18, 2018 and Executive Order 11 dated October 19, 2023.

“*Rural community*” means either an Iowa city with a population of 20,000 or less and that is not contiguous to a city with a population of 40,000 or greater, or an Iowa county that is one of the 88 least populous counties in the state.

261—30.3(90GA,SF559,2432) Eligible uses of funds.

30.3(1) Funds appropriated to the authority for the empower rural Iowa program shall be used to address the challenges and opportunities of rural communities. Uses of funds shall be approved by the director.

30.3(2) Eligible uses of funds include the following:

- a. The rural housing needs assessment grant program administered pursuant to 261—Chapter 28;
- b. The rural innovation grant program administered pursuant to 261—Chapter 29;
- c. Support for entrepreneurship and cooperative business models for businesses in rural communities;
- d. Leadership development training for representatives of rural communities;
- e. Education and training opportunities relating to succession planning for businesses in rural communities;
- f. Promotion of e-commerce opportunities for businesses in rural communities; and
- g. Implementation of additional recommendations identified by the empower rural Iowa task force.

These rules are intended to implement 2023 Iowa Acts, Senate File 559, 2024 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2432, and Executive Order 11.

***For rules being re-promulgated with changes, you may attach a document with suggested changes.**

METRICS

Total number of rules repealed:	0
Proposed word count reduction after repeal and/or re-promulgation	0
Proposed number of restrictive terms eliminated after repeal and/or re-promulgation	1

ARE THERE ANY STATUTORY CHANGES YOU WOULD RECOMMEND INCLUDING CODIFYING ANY RULES?

None.