

2025 Policy Priorities

Iowa Public Health Association supports policies that are aligned with Healthy Iowans and Healthy People 2030, and secure Iowans' ability to make healthy choices for themselves, their families, and their communities. Through our advocacy and partnerships, we prioritize data-driven policies focused on prevention, harm reduction, and early intervention.



A Strong Public Health Workforce

Iowa's public health workforce is the backbone of our collective effort to ensure a healthy and thriving Iowa. We support policies that:

- uphold public health standards
- increase public health funding and resources
- expand career training and pathways to ensure a workforce representative of Iowa's diverse communities



Access to Care

Access to care is critical for the health of all Iowans and to promote Iowa as a place to live, work, raise a family, and retire. We support policies that:

- ensure person-centered care and evidence-based medical, dental, and mental health care
- invest in strategies to address public health and provider workforce shortages
- expand telehealth services to improve access to care in rural and underserved areas
- address health disparities statewide



Safe, Sustainable, and Resilient Communities

Health is generated and supported in our communities, through policies that support the built and natural environment to make the healthy choice the easy choice. We support policies that:

- promote affordable housing, childcare access, and other innovative strategies to support economic development, and break generational cycles of poverty
- comprehensive transportation options for access to healthcare, employment, education, and other essential services
- the safe storage of firearms include the part of a suicide, injury and violence prevention strategy
- invest in emergency preparedness to increase our ability to mitigate and respond to disasters of increasing severity and frequency



Strategies to Prevent Disease and Injury

The ability to detect, prevent, respond to and learn from disease and injuries is at the core of community health and safety. We support policies that:

- invest in data collection and analysis, allowing us to better understand Iowa's high rates of chronic disease, and develop appropriate public health prevention and intervention strategies
- decrease the burden of infectious disease by increasing immunization rates; enhance our disease surveillance systems in order to detect and respond to outbreaks promptly
- fully support Iowa's mortality review committees (Child, Maternal, and Domestic Abuse) to inform state investments and policies regarding prevention and protection

Conditions for Bill Support

The IPHA Policy Committee will assess to what extent bills meet the following conditions before recommending action by the Membership.

- Positive health equity impact
- Consistent with the principles and values of public health
- Protects the public’s health
- Communities most impacted included in decision-making and implementation plans

LEVELS OF SUPPORT

 <p>Actively Support</p>	<p>Dedicate lobbying and volunteer membership resources towards passage, including: allow our name to be used as a supporter of the bill, sign on to support letters, arrange for testimony, coordinate with other supporting groups, and send action alerts to members requesting legislator contacts.</p>
 <p>Support</p>	<p>Review bill and amendments. Allow our name to be used as a supporter of the bill. No lobbying resources to be utilized.</p>
 <p>Monitor (passive)</p>	<p>Bill remains on IPHA Bill Monitor list. Monitored to see how it impacts public health practice. Report at end of session.</p>
 <p>Oppose</p>	<p>Review bill and amendments. Allow our name to be used in opposition to the bill. No lobbying resources to be utilized.</p>
 <p>Actively Oppose</p>	<p>Dedicate lobbying and volunteer membership resources towards defeating the bill, including: allow our name to be used in opposition of the bill, sign on to opposition letters, arrange for testimony, coordinate with other opposing groups, and send action alerts to members requesting legislator contacts.</p>