



Governor Terry E. Branstad
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds
San Wong, Director

Iowa Commission on the Status of Women (ICSW) 2015 Issues and Policy Priorities

The Commission on the Status of Women held a meeting on December 22, 2014 where the following statement was discussed and approved by the commission and in accordance with Iowa Code 216.54(4), which reads:

The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

4. Recommend legislative and executive action to the governor and general assembly.

ICSW Priorities

1. Proactive protection and oversight for Iowa women and girls

The ICSW strongly supports:

- Critical services for women, such as services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.
- Policy changes that enhance safety for female victims of violence.
- Protection of young women and oversight for juvenile justice for young women.
- Enhancing the quality of life for elderly women and support for caregivers.

2. Pay equity and women in poverty

The ICSW recommends legislative support and advocacy for programs that:

- Affect a woman's ability to earn as much as a man for doing the same work.
- Lift women out of poverty.

3. Women in leadership

The ICSW strongly encourages legislative support and public awareness for increasing the number of women in:

- Elected positions at the city, county, state, and federal levels.
- Appointed positions at the city, county, and state levels.
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) careers.

4. Women in business

The ICSW strongly supports policies that affect women who:

- Are entrepreneurs/business-owners.
- Serve in business leadership roles.
- Work in STEM careers or own STEM-related businesses, in which women are greatly underrepresented.