



# PUBLIC INTEREST INSTITUTE FACT SHEET

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## Trimming Iowa's Budget, Part III

- **Duplication and the Unnecessary:** Iowa State Government should eliminate programs that duplicate other government programs. For example, the Iowa Workforce Development Center Veterans Team tries to obtain employment for veterans. It could be eliminated since it is duplicated at the federal level.

We should also eliminate programs that are unnecessary. For example, the Department of Professional Licensure has a Board of Examiners for athletic trainers, behavioral science, barbers, cosmetology, dietetics, hearing aid dealers, and massage therapists.

- **Boards and Commissions:** To continue the search for things that are duplicative or unnecessary, the Governor and State Legislature should give withering scrutiny to the "Roster of State Officials 2002." Iowa has over 200 boards and commissions. Many seem duplicative. For example, there are four dealing with emergency services and there are six dealing with disabilities.

If it is absolutely necessary to keep such organizations, many could be consolidated. The Department of Agriculture has sixteen different boards, including ones for corn promotion, soybean promotion, sheep and wool promotion, and turkey marketing. A more general board or commission promoting all Iowa products might be a better value for the taxpayers. If industries still want more effort, they should address it through the check-off programs.

- **Privatization:** Iowa should consider privatizing the State Liquor Warehouse in Ankeny. Iowa should sell off the warehouse, and open the liquor wholesale business to private competition. As discussed in our soon to be released study, Iowa should also consider privatization of some of the state's prisons.

*Source: David Hogberg, Iowa Economic Scorecard, January 2003, "How Iowa Government Can Reduce Spending."*

*By David Hogberg, Research Analyst*

public.interest.institute@limitedgovernment.org Phone: 319-385-3462 Fax: 319-385-3799