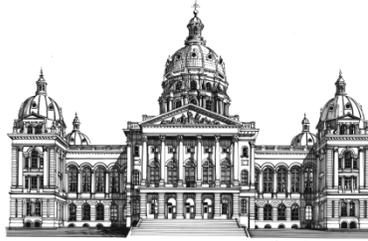


TOD R. BOWMAN  
STATE SENATOR  
*Twenty-ninth District*  
Statehouse: (515) 281-3371

HOME ADDRESS  
812 Grant St  
Maquoketa, IA 52060  
H: (563) 652-5499  
C: (563) 370-2422  
tod.bowman@legis.iowa.gov



**The Senate**  
State of Iowa  
*Eighty-seventh General Assembly*  
STATEHOUSE  
Des Moines, IA 50319

## COMMITTEES

Agriculture  
Education  
State Government  
Transportation, *Ranking Member*  
Veterans Affairs

Transportation, Infrastructure, and Capitals  
Appropriations Subcommittee

Honorable Kim Reynolds  
Governor  
State Capitol  
Des Moines IA 50319

Dear Governor Reynolds:

Congratulations on your new role as Iowa's 43<sup>rd</sup> Governor. During your inaugural speech, you signaled interest in working together to make Iowa a better place. Economic prosperity and fiscal responsibility are usually seen when the Governor and legislators work in a bipartisan way to make smart investments in Iowa and Iowans.

As the only active teacher in the Iowa Senate, I hope that we can work together to increase educational opportunities for all Iowa students to be successful. I believe we should focus on these areas of policy to enhance student achievement:

- **Preschool:** There are waiting lists in our largest cities and lack of programs in our smallest communities. We can and must work together both in policy, partnerships and funding to make sure quality early learning environments are available for every child that wants to attend.
- **School Funding Investments:** Funding for education should not be a partisan issue. Our path to a high skill, high wage economy for our state depends on the quality of our local schools. Even during tight budget times, we must prioritize how we invest in our children's education.
- **Student and Transportation Equity:** There must be a bipartisan effort to create greater equity among school districts with consistent per-pupil school spending and provide equality for Iowa's rural schools with dedicated transportation funding to school districts with higher than average transportation costs.
- **Early Literacy:** I was supportive of reversing the strict Third Grade Retention legislation this past session but I know we both agree we need to continue our efforts. There isn't a child in Iowa that should grow up without the skill of reading because their economic prosperity depends on a quality education built on reading and learning.
- **Civic Education:** Encourage local schools to enhance their civic education efforts to equip students with the knowledge and skills to participate effectively in our representative democracy.
- **STEM:** You have assisted Iowa's effort to become a recognized leader in STEM. We must do more. That includes aggressively using STEM as a tool for economic and employee development, and expanding the opportunities for all students throughout our state.

I look forward to working with you during this interim and during the 2018 session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tod R. Bowman". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Senator Tod Bowman