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**RELEASE: Gov. Reynolds Announces Staff Changes**

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## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### Governor Kim Reynolds ★ Lt. Governor Adam Gregg

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, August 18, 2023

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### Gov. Reynolds Announces Staff Changes

DES MOINES – Gov. Reynolds today announced that Dax Oberreuter will join her administration as policy advisor for health care and veteran's affairs. Oberreuter most recently served as legislative liaison at the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). He previously held the same position for the Iowa Department on Aging and served as the agency's public information officer and planning and innovation administrator. He holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Iowa. The position was previously held by Clare Kelly who is leaving the Office of the Governor to become the chief advocacy officer for the Iowa Hospital Association.

"Dax's experience at Health and Human Services and the Department on Aging, and the well-established relationships he has across state government and with key stakeholders make him a tremendous asset to my team, and I look forward to working with him," stated Gov. Reynolds. "I also want to express my gratitude to Clare for her incredible work over the last two years. I wish her the very best in her new role."

The governor has also hired Kate Schreier to serve as constituent services liaison. Schreier graduated from Iowa State University in May 2023, and previously served in the governor's office as a constituent services intern.

Position changes are also occurring among current staff members: Megan Hall, previously boards and commissions director, is now paralegal; and Townsend Ayers, previously constituent services liaison, is now boards and commissions director.

A complete list of Governor's Office staff is listed below:

Taryn Frideres – Chief of Staff  
Jacob Nicholson – Chief Operating Officer  
Molly Severn – Deputy Chief of Staff & Legislative Liaison  
Steven Blankinship – Senior Legal Counsel  
Heather Nahas – Communications Director  
Nate Ristow – Administrative Rules Coordinator  
Patrick Tomka – Senior Tax & Economic Policy Advisor  
Jane Dufoe – Education Policy Advisor  
Dax Oberreuter – Health Care & Veteran's Affairs Policy Advisor  
Laura Book – Workforce & Public Safety Policy Advisor  
Lillie Brady – Agriculture & Energy Policy Advisor  
Ryan Capps – Senior Advisor  
Megan Hall – Paralegal  
Kollin Crompton – Deputy Communications Director

Damian Bell – Chief Speechwriter & Communications Advisor  
Eric Baker – Director of Strategic Operations & Director of the Office for State-Federal Relations  
Townsend Ayers – Boards & Commissions Director  
Morgan Fritz – Special Assistant to the Lieutenant Governor  
Annie Hayes – Executive Assistant to the Governor  
Anna Hartzog – Constituent Services Director  
Kate Schreier – Constituent Services Liaison

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