

In this column I often highlight the benefits of being a member of the Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce. Today I would like to tell you about an organization I have been involved with for over 30 years. The Iowa Association of Business and Industry; ABI for short. I am currently this great statewide organization's Treasurer and plan to be Chair in 2023.

ABI has served as the state's unified voice for business since 1903. ABI's mission is to nurture a favorable business, economic, governmental and social climate within the state of Iowa so our citizens can have the opportunity to enjoy the highest possible quality of life.

ABI's strength is in its size: ABI is Iowa's largest statewide business organization with more than 1,500 member companies representing 330,000 working Iowans. Locally, companies such as LyondellBasell, Custom Pak and the Clinton Regional Development Corp are active members.

ABI members come from all 99 counties and all industry sectors, including manufacturers, retailers, insurance companies, financial institutions, publishers and printers, transportation services, law firms, health care organizations and educational institutions.

ABI's staff, members and volunteers strive to fulfill our mission each day in four distinct ways:

Advocate: ABI's public policy team works around the clock to monitor issues important to Iowa businesses and speak on behalf of member companies to ensure Iowa sustains a business climate that fosters new jobs and economic growth.

Collaborate: Everyone benefits when Iowa companies can conduct business with fellow Iowa companies. ABI provides an environment that encourages Iowa businesses to work together.

Educate: ABI takes seriously its responsibility to keep Iowa business owners and executives apprised of issues that could pose challenges for

their companies and offer solutions and best practices.

Motivate: The ABI Foundation has played an integral role in the development of thousands of Iowa's business and civic leaders through its professional development and issues awareness programs, including Business Horizons, Leadership Iowa University and Leadership Iowa.

As a business leader in the Clinton area, you can have access to the great reach of ABI through us. Just give me a call!