

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Erin Kurth, Iowa Department on Aging  
(515) 725-3304 or [erin.kurth@iowa.gov](mailto:erin.kurth@iowa.gov)



**National Retirement Planning Week encourages secure financial futures through retirement planning**

**Des Moines, Iowa (April 7, 2016)** – Iowa Insurance Commissioner Nick Gerhart, Iowa Department on Aging Director Donna Harvey and the National Retirement Planning Coalition are encouraging Iowans to make plans for retirement in order to have a financially secure future during National Retirement Planning Week, April 11-15, 2016.

National Retirement Planning Week is a national effort to encourage Americans to plan for their financial needs in retirement. The Iowa Insurance Division and the Iowa Department on Aging, along with many other financial industry and advocacy organizations, have partnered with the National Retirement Planning Coalition to raise public awareness of the need for comprehensive retirement planning and demonstrate how it is possible for Americans to retire on their own terms if comprehensive retirement plans are properly developed and managed.

“Far too often, people will spend weeks planning a weekend vacation, yet don’t spend any time planning their retirement. Considering your retirement could be the equivalent of a 20-, 30- or 40-year vacation, that can be a big problem,” Gerhart said. “It’s important to make plans early, periodically review and update those plans, and seek professional guidance when it’s necessary. A little planning can go a long way toward ensuring a dignified retirement.”

“A key factor in being able to live independently after retirement is making sure you’re financially secure,” added Harvey. “The vast majority of Iowans want to be able to live at home for as long as possible, but in order to meet that goal, they need to plan well in advance for expenses that will enable them to age in place. Things like the cost of home modifications or medical expenses may not be top of mind as you look forward to retirement, but anticipating those costs will help you create a realistic retirement plan that secures your financial future.”

Resources, tools and tips can be found at [www.RetireOnYourTerms.org](http://www.RetireOnYourTerms.org) and will be tweeted from @retireonurterms with the hashtag #NRPW.

###

**About the Iowa Department on Aging**

The Iowa Department on Aging (IDA) is an executive branch agency dedicated to making Iowa the premier state in which to live and retire. To meet that goal, the IDA works closely with the Iowa Commission on Aging and Iowa's six Agencies on Aging to develop a comprehensive, coordinated and cost-effective system of long-term living and community support services that helps individuals maintain health and independence in their homes and communities. More information is available at [www.iowaaging.gov](http://www.iowaaging.gov).

**About the Iowa Insurance Division**

The Iowa Insurance Division ([www.iid.iowa.gov](http://www.iid.iowa.gov)) has general control, supervision and direction over all insurance and securities business transacted in the state, and enforces Iowa's laws and regulations. The IID investigates consumer complaints and prosecutes companies, agents and brokers engaging in unfair trade practices. Consumers with insurance or securities-related questions or complaints may contact the IID toll free at 877-955-1212.

**About the National Retirement Planning Coalition**

The National Retirement Planning Coalition ([www.retireonyourterms.org](http://www.retireonyourterms.org)) is led by the Insured Retirement Institute ([www.irionline.org](http://www.irionline.org)). The National Retirement Planning Coalition collects the latest resources to help consumers and financial professionals focus on long-term financial goals.