



## **2021 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

**The Chamber's purpose is to create economic prosperity by facilitating community leadership. Our State legislative agenda helps fulfill this purpose by focusing on the following priorities:**

### **An environment where business can prosper.**

1. Support access and affordability of medical care to more citizens – including behavioral health as well as prevention and treatment of substance abuse and addiction – to provide a healthier workforce and to alleviate health care costs to businesses.
2. Support state and local business incentives and tools that make Tennessee competitive with other states while emphasizing transparency, accountability, and a return on investment.
3. Support efforts to preserve Tennessee's reputation as a welcoming state for all by opposing discriminatory legislation that negatively impacts the economy and jobs.

### **Development and productivity of the region's workforce.**

4. Support efforts to improve accountability regarding the performance of schools to drive intervention and innovation.
5. Support strategies to reach the state's college completion goal of 55 percent of Tennesseans with postsecondary credentials including the expansion of apprenticeships and work-based learning programs.
6. Support additional funding for community colleges and TCATs in order to increase graduation rates to meet the region's workforce demands.
7. Support justice reform proposals that seek to provide opportunities for individuals leaving incarceration to return to the workforce and be productive citizens.
8. Support reforms to the bail system to ensure that non-violent individuals are not incarcerated long term simply for an inability to post bail.
9. Support efforts to expand access to quality, affordable childcare.

### **Quality of life that attracts and retains residents and workers.**

10. Support regional solutions for mobility through dedicated funding and regional coordination across planning, funding, construction and operation.
11. Support near-term solutions and long-term investments to address the region's challenges of mobility.
12. Support incentive-based approaches to increase the supply of housing and promote housing affordability.
13. Support efforts to provide cities with the authority to regulate "transpotainment" vehicles to ensure safety and responsible planning for congestion and events.