



2017 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The Chamber's purpose is to facilitate community leadership to create economic prosperity.

An environment where business can prosper
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Priority Issue: Support Medicaid expansion to provide a healthier workforce and to alleviate and prevent increased health care costs to businesses. 2. Oppose the implementation of a state minimum wage for private businesses, leaving the federal government to set the minimum wage level. 3. Support the Tennessee Department of Revenue's efforts to level the playing field of competition by requiring out-of-state businesses to collect and remit sales taxes upon reaching \$500,000 in sales in Tennessee. 4. Support the ability of municipalities to annex parcels within their urban growth boundary in order to grow and attract industry. 5. Support efforts to preserve Tennessee's reputation as a welcoming state for all by opposing discriminatory legislation that negatively impacts the economy and jobs. 6. Support the sanctity and certainty of Tennessee contract law.
Talent development of the region's workforce
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Support justice reform measures aimed at increasing the employability of non-violent offenders following their release from incarceration. 8. Oppose school voucher legislation that does not provide real accountability by requiring participating private schools to administer the same state mandated assessments required of public schools. 9. Support strategies to reach the state's college completion goal of 55 percent of Tennesseans with postsecondary credentials that meet the region's workforce needs. 10. Support an accountability model for Tennessee school districts and high schools that includes a measure of quality career and technical education, such as industry certifications and post-secondary credit. 11. Support in-state college tuition rates for Tennessee high school graduates who are legally present in the United States but may not be naturalized citizens.
Quality of life that attracts and retains residents and workers
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Priority Issue: Support for comprehensive solutions around investing in the region's transportation and transit infrastructure, including legislation that enables local governments to implement dedicated funding sources for transportation. 13. Oppose efforts to restrict the use of gas tax revenues by cities and counties, preventing creative, multi-modal solutions to transportation issues. 14. Support incentive-based programs and policies that promote housing affordability in the region.