

Preserving Texas' Economic Development Success

- Reauthorize Chapter 313 (Texas Economic Development Act) of the Tax Code.
- Maintain competitive funding for the Texas Enterprise Fund and support amendments in adjusting income eligibility requirements.
- Support efforts to define broadband a “universal need”, and increase broadband access for all Texans.
- Ensure Texas remains a welcoming State for all, and that it remains the premier state in the United States for all to live, work and do business.
- Support a tax system that stimulates economic growth by balancing the interests of all Texans, avoids a disproportionate tax burden on select sectors of the economy, and provides rules and processes that are transparent and open.
- Ensure that regulations on compensation and wages, including paid time off, remain at the state and federal levels.
- Support policies that provide appropriate legal liability protections for businesses, universities, and health care professionals operating in a COVID-19 environment.

Investing in Texas' Future Workforce

- Maintain funding for higher education to increase education attainment levels, and funding for academic research to unlock innovation to strengthen Texas' businesses now and in the future.
- Further the progress made in the 86th Legislature by protecting an equitable, accountable, and well-funded public education system that prepares all children to pursue their dreams, including, but not limited to, a living wage job, college enrollment, or the military.
- Provide access to quality and affordable childcare options that will enable greater workforce participation for parents, and improve long-term academic success for all children.
- Address employment disruptions caused by COVID-19 by modernizing and re-imagining the Texas workforce development system to expand opportunity for workers, which will improve employers' access to a growing skilled workforce.

Supporting COVID-19 Recovery and a Sustainable Healthy Workforce

- Promote a healthy workforce for Texas businesses by maximizing federal dollars for Medicaid.
- Support policies that expand telemedicine and virtual health options as a way of delivering more high-quality care and promoting the safety of physicians and patients.
- Fund construction of a state behavioral health facility in DFW and the expansion of inpatient facilities, as well as additional funds for outpatient care programs.
- Fund the expansion of programs which have proven effective against opioid abuse, and fund new programs if necessary.
- Provide adequate, predictable, and stable funding for Texas healthcare providers, including trauma care.

Transportation

- Protect the local transportation priorities, policies, and funding sources.
- Maintain all current project delivery tools to allow for innovative infrastructure financing.
- Support Texas high speed rail.

Water

- Support oversight on SWIFT applications made to the State to expedite applications.

Energy

- Support a consistent statewide regulatory framework.
- Ensure that Texas' diverse, competitive energy market is affordable, reliable, and sustainable.

Local Control

- Support policies that protect the authority of municipalities to sufficiently fund services vital to their residents.

Public Safety

- Promote community engagement initiatives tied to public safety to build greater trust between various communities and those serving in public safety roles.

Criminal Justice

- Support efforts to establish and expand offender re-entry programs to eliminate barriers and build an inclusive community where everyone has the opportunity to contribute and thrive.

Please contact Matt Garcia, SVP of Public Policy at mgarcia@dallaschamber.org or **214.746.6721** for more information.