

# 2017 Legislative Agenda for Arizona Business

## State Issues

### Education

- Advocate for new and increased financial resources for K-12 education and public higher education programs to ensure Arizona has the qualified workforce it needs in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- Support a modernization of the state's K-12 funding system, with an emphasis on encouraging the replication of high performing educational models, especially those in low-income areas.
- Ensure that Arizona improves the current high academic standards that prepare our students for college and career.
- Support funding that ensures Arizona students have robust career and technical education (CTE) options.
- Support the efforts of Achieve60AZ to reach the goal of 60 percent of our adult population, ages 25-64, having a professional certificate or degree by 2030.

### Transportation and Infrastructure

- Oppose sweeps from the Highway User Revenue Fund, the State Lake Improvement Fund and other dedicated transportation funds into the general fund.
- Support infrastructure projects that maximize job creation and investment in Arizona interstate system, including I-10, I-11, & I-17 corridors.
- Support, and call for, a broad and comprehensive evaluation of both short term and long term transportation funding challenges and solutions statewide.
- Advocate for legislation, regulation and policies that recognize the electric power grid and all other natural resources and utility infrastructure delivery systems as assets requiring consistent maintenance, improvement and support through investments by all of those who use them.

### Taxation

- Support tax, fee and fiscal policies that will attract new investments and bring jobs to Arizona.
- Support a reduction in business property taxes to help spur investment.
- Protect and support the full implementation of recent tax reforms, including TPT (sales tax) simplification.
- Work with interested parties to come up with continued reforms to Arizona's public pension systems to reduce unfunded liabilities.
- Conform to federal income tax changes by January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### Legal & Regulatory Affairs

- Oppose government intrusion into private workplace management.
- Continue to support the state regulatory moratorium.
- Promote a competitive regulatory environment that provides timeliness and certainty for businesses without unduly burdensome regulations on business owners.
- Support legislation that protects business from frivolous lawsuits.
- Oppose legislation which may shed a negative light on Arizona's national image, especially those with discriminatory implications.

### Protect the Business Community's Freedom of Speech

- Protect the business community's ability to engage in political speech.
- Solidify the Secretary of State's position as the state's chief elections officer.

### Quality of Life

- Support and participate in efforts to brand Arizona as a favorable environment for tourism, business location, expansion, and job creation.
- Strengthen Arizona's economy by encouraging increased public-private partnerships.
- Increase the current funding level for tourism promotion via the Arizona Office of Tourism.

## Federal Issues

### Regulatory

- Oppose regulatory efforts by the federal government that disparately and disproportionately impact Arizona, while supporting efforts to streamline regulations and ensure that Arizona's distinctive characteristics are reflected.
- Preserve a business owner's ability to manage its workplace and workforce without expanded federal intrusion.
- Advocate for the finalization of the federal tax code by November 30 of that tax year.
- Promote policies that support trade.

### Military Assets

- Work with Arizona's congressional delegation and business community to promote Arizona's military installations and emphasize the ability of these installations to take on new missions.
- Oppose the United States Air Force desire to divest the A-10 Thunderbolt II from its inventory.

### Public Lands

- Support legislation that would require the federal government to enter an agreement with the state or any municipality that offers non-federal funds to reopen and temporarily operate public lands including national parks, national monuments and national recreation areas during a government shutdown.
- Continued support for the FLAME ACT and the Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI).
- Support allocating a percentage of funds currently marked for suppression of forest fires to prevention of forest fires.
- Oppose efforts to designate land as national monuments.

### Immigration

- Continue to support comprehensive federal immigration reform.
- Support a dialogue with the Mexican government to expand and modernize U.S.-Mexico ports of entry.

## Local issues

### Wage Policies

- Work together to resist efforts at a local level to institute any mandatory equal wage laws or citywide minimum wage above the state-mandated minimum wage.
- Work together to resist efforts at a local level to institute any mandatory time off (Safe & Sick time).

### Publicly Funded Elections

- Oppose any efforts by cities or towns to establish a publicly funded elections scheme for local election.

**The Arizona Chamber Executives provide an avenue for chambers across the state to work together on state, local and federal issues. This annual legislative agenda represents shared business interests supported by chambers of commerce throughout the state of Arizona.**

**Endorsed By**

Ahwatukee Foothills Chamber of Commerce  
Apache County Chamber of Commerce  
Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce &  
Visitor Center  
Bullhead Area Chamber of Commerce  
Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Carefree Cave Creek Chamber of Commerce  
Chandler Chamber of Commerce  
Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce  
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Nogales-Santa Cruz County Chamber of  
Commerce  
Parker Area Chamber of Commerce and  
Tourism  
Pinetop Lakeside Chamber of Commerce  
Prescott Chamber of Commerce  
Prescott Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Queen Creek Chamber of Commerce  
Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce  
Sedona Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau  
Sierra Vista Area Chamber of Commerce  
Surprise Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Tempe Chamber of Commerce  
Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and its  
affiliate chambers:  
Nogales Hispanic Chamber  
Douglas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Sierra Vista Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Southwest Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Tucson Metro Chamber of Commerce  
Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce  
Willcox Chamber of Commerce and  
Agriculture  
Yuma County Chamber of Commerce

**Recent Successes**

HB 2002 - Insurance Premium Tax Reduction  
SUPPORTED - Signed into law  
  
HB 2201-Sovereign Authority; Commandeering;  
Prohibition; Exception  
OPPOSED – Defeated  
  
HB 2386 - Patent Troll Prevention Act  
SUPPORTED - Signed into law  
  
HB 2486 - Telecommunications Utilities; Relocation;  
Reimbursement  
SUPPORTED - Signed into law  
  
HB 2502 -Medical Licensure Compact  
SUPPORTED - Signed into law  
  
HB 2579 -Nonwage compensation; minimum wage  
SUPPORTED – Signed into law  
  
HB 2544 -Schools; Statewide Achievement  
Assessments; Menu  
SUPPORTED – Signed into law  
  
SB 1005-Private Fund Advisers; Exemption  
SUPPORTED – Signed into law  
  
SB 1257-Misconduct Involving Weapons; Public  
Places  
OPPOSED - Defeated  
  
SB 1323 Vexatious Litigants; Workers' Compensation  
SUPPORTED - Signed into law  
  
SB1356-Business Entities; Shareholders; Officers;  
Directors SUPPORTED - Signed into law  
  
SB 1428 - PSPRS Modifications  
SUPPORTED - Signed into law  
  
SB 1516 -Campaign Finance Amendments  
SUPPORTED - Signed into law  
  
SB 1525 -JTED Restoration & Reforms  
SUPPORTED - Signed into law



For More Information, contact  
the Arizona Chamber Executives  
Telephone (602) 503-1399  
[www.arizonachamberexecs.com](http://www.arizonachamberexecs.com)