



2015 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

TOP PRIORITIES:

BUSINESS CLIMATE & GOVERNANCE

- › Support a Florida-specific solution to health care reform as it relates to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, including a health care expansion plan that covers the low income, nonelderly adult Floridians that will not qualify for a subsidy in the health care marketplace.

INNOVATION

- › Support funding for the construction of the USF Health Downtown Tampa Initiative.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- › Provide a uniform framework to local governments on regulation of transportation network companies that protects the consumer, while providing competitive and innovative choices.

The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce recognizes its responsibility to represent our 1,200 members in the legislative process. An integral component of the Chamber's mission is to communicate the views of the business community to our elected policy makers.

BUSINESS CLIMATE & GOVERNANCE

The Chamber continues to support the reductions of red tape burdens that exist on Florida businesses while working to ensure government works as efficiently as possible while recognizing the need for Florida to provide solutions to health care that are specific to our state.

- › Support a Florida-specific solution to health care reform as it relates to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, including an expansion plan that covers low income, nonelderly adult Floridians.
- › Support for an allocation not to exceed \$20 million dollars to Enterprise Florida for a national marketing and branding campaign.
- › Support efforts to repeal the sales tax on commercial real estate leases, and continue to address the shifting of tax burden onto commercial and non-homesteaded properties.
- › Allow Florida craft breweries the ability to sell 64-ounce growlers.
- › Support efforts to streamline the process to approve the use of the Quick Action Closing Fund, in order for the state to be more effective in attracting large economic development projects.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The Chamber continues to support efforts to improve Tampa Bay area infrastructure to ensure better mobility and affordability, keeping in mind the need for transit, energy, and water resource solutions.

- › Provide a uniform framework to local governments on regulation of transportation network companies that protects the consumer, while providing competitive and innovative choices.
- › Continue strong investment in Florida's seaport infrastructure.
- › Maintain and grow regional transportation links in the Tampa Bay area.



INNOVATION

The Chamber requests continued funding for critical economic development tools including international trade, targeted industries, among others, designed to attract new jobs and support the expansion of existing local jobs.

- › Support funding for the construction of the USF Health Downtown Tampa Initiative.
- › Support \$5 million in recurring funding for the Florida Center for Cybersecurity at USF.
- › Address barriers limiting the use of telehealth programs in Florida, including provisions related to providers and billing, that will set parameters for the industry and protect patients.



TALENT: EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

The Chamber seeks to ensure that our members have better local access to an educated and highly skilled workforce necessary to compete in the 21st Century through support of education funding and access to career education programs.



- › Take measures to consider the availability of Bright Futures Scholarship funds for students seeking to enroll in summer semesters at State Universities and Colleges.
- › Support increased investment in the State University System Performance Based Fund.
- › Support efforts to increase capital funding for public schools.
- › Support efforts to increase technology funding for public school districts, and statewide electronic student information systems.
- › Support funding for Hillsborough Community College's new Allied Health Building, which will house primary care and diagnostic allied health programs at the Dale Mabry Campus.
- › Support \$870,000 in funding to start up the Hillsborough Community College diesel transit technician program. Support \$1.1 million in equipment upgrades for the Hillsborough Community College firefighter program.
- › Support efforts to increase Moffitt Cancer Center's education line item to \$19.1 million, for training of more than 1000 oncologists.
- › Support state investment in graduate medical education by investing in medical residencies, not just medical schools.
- › Maximize investment in STEAM and workforce training programs across all levels of education.

QUALITY OF LIFE

The Chamber will continue to support efforts to enhance our local cultural climate and foster a well-rounded community.

- › Strengthen current protections for nonprofit performing arts centers from unlawful and unauthorized secondary ticketing.
- › Support the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs and maintain funding for arts programs, museums, and zoos, including funding for The Florida Aquarium, and Lowry Park Zoo's Animal Care Campus and Manatee Hospital.
- › Support increased incentives to film makers and theater companies to attract new productions to Florida.





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