

2019 BOWLING GREEN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



SouthCentralKentucky
Central For Business. Southern For Living.



Bowling Green Area
Chamber of Commerce

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2018 SUCCESS

INFRASTRUCTURE

Southwest Parkway

\$730,000 approved for road design, right-of-way and utility phase for the Southwest parkway in to the South Central Kentucky Industrial Park

Rochester Dam

\$13,000,000 grant for the repair of Rochester Dam on the Green River to protect water supply

TVA Bill

Payment in Lieu of Tax Allocation for areas with TVA will receive more funds for economic development in 39 counties in the TVA territory including Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Logan, Metcalfe, Monroe, Simpson and Warren in Southcentral Kentucky

Certification of shovel-ready and pad-ready sites

\$9,000,000 for the Product Development Initiative for physical asset and capital improvement projects for economic development

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

Industrial Maintenance and Machine Tool Program

Secured funding for one new teaching position for the new program

Essential Skills Program

Incorporates essential skills like reliability, being drug-free, adaptability, showing initiative, being diligent and working well with others into Kentucky's K-12 system.

STATE, REGIONAL, & FEDERAL POLICY

Tax Reform

Pro-business tax reform that expands the base, lowers the rate and brings in much needed revenue

Unemployment Insurance Reform

Makes several changes to modernize Kentucky's unemployment insurance system

Since 1935, we have been an organization dedicated to developing, promoting, and maintaining a healthy and growing economic climate for South Central Kentucky. With the support of approximately 1,350 members, our focus on continuing this mission is specific to our legislative priorities: Economic & Community Development, Transportation & Infrastructure, Education & Workforce, and State, Regional & Federal Policies.



ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

We strive to work together as a true partnership to create a cooperative environment for business and industry to thrive, improving quality of life in South Central Kentucky. Growth management is the overall goal with the main focus on making smart investments and creating great places that makes the community appealing to prospective and existing businesses and prospective and existing talent.

INDUSTRIAL PARKS

Support legislation that allows us to maintain the business model for expansion of the Kentucky Transpark and to develop new industrial/business parks.

- Fund additional site, road, and utility construction for Industrial park/business park, development. (state and federal)
- Fund further master planning and engineering for industrial park/business park development. (state and federal)

INCENTIVES & PROGRAMS

Support the creation of incentives and programs that will spur the growth of the high-performance motorsports sector by encouraging the formation of accelerator programs and the development of relationships that lead to existing industry growth, new start-up ventures and new company locations.

GREENWAY & BIKE TRAILS

Support enhanced community assets and amenities such as greenway & bike trails and beautification projects which will aid with talent attraction and retention.

VETERAN'S HOSPITAL

Continue to seek federal matching support for the proposed veteran's hospital to locate in Warren County.

NCM MOTOR SPORTS PARK

Support policy changes that would positively impact the National Corvette Museum Motor Sports Park for spectator activities.



TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE



Located at the center of a 34-state distribution area in the eastern United States, South Central Kentucky's prime location accelerates the distribution time of goods and materials to a massive industrial and consumer market. In fact, we are within a day's drive of 60 percent of the nation's population, personal income and manufacturing business establishments.

The city, county and chamber must coordinate efforts to balance greenfield/infill possibilities for a range of commercial and residential uses. The return on investment of infrastructure expansion and maintenance for denser development is exceedingly more beneficial to a community in terms of financial, social, and economic impacts.

SOUTHWEST PARKWAY

Support the inclusion of the Southwest Parkway in the Biennial Highway Construction Plan

WATER SUPPLY ALLOCATION STUDY

Support authorization, direction and funding of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Water Supply Allocation Study of Barren River Lake. (federal)

INDUSTRIAL SITES

Fund independent certification of shovel-ready and pad-ready industrial sites. (state and federal)

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Support transportation projects identified as priority by the local MPO as well as fund infrastructure projects approved by the Barren River Area Development District (BRADD) Water Management Council. (state)

BROADBAND & FIBER INFRASTRUCTURE

Increase funding of broadband and fiber infrastructure, including mapping and documentation. (state and federal)



EDUCATION & WORKFORCE



Our region has a strong reputation for meeting and exceeding industry needs by providing companies with a skilled and available workforce to meet the demands of a global economy. Our educational partners train workers in industry-specific skill sets, but it's our ability to provide the flexibility and customization that companies require that sets us apart.

Our goal is to collaborate with public and private organizations to foster a world-class workforce system that develops a trained and skilled workforce that meets the current and future needs of our targeted businesses and partners. We provide business needs to the South Central Workforce Development Board and affiliated public workforce system entities as they work with job seekers to place into employment.

TARGETED **BUSINESSES**

Support legislation that creates an incentive for targeted businesses willing to locate in Kentucky that will recruit, screen, and train employees in exchange for the creation of new jobs in Kentucky's targeted sectors.

K-12

Continue to support the alignment of K-12 accountability and assessment standards with career pathways and the addition of career-focused models.

TALENT **PIPELINE**

Improve transparency and accountability in the workforce investment system to support the development of a well-trained talent pipeline for the business community.

WKU & **SKYCTC**

Maintain the Commonwealth's commitment to performance funding for postsecondary education including the equitable distribution of funds among Kentucky's public universities. Specifically support for Western Kentucky University & Southcentral Community & Technical College.

EDUCATION **PATHWAYS**

Continual investment in technical education pathways, both K-12 and post secondary education. Resources supporting scholarships, program development, faculty, and equipment needed to continue helping the business.

KOSA

Support the replacement of the KOSA exam with industry credentials.

PUBLIC WORKFORCE **SYSTEM**

Encourage the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet to focus the existing public workforce system (key required partners) on becoming interdependent.

RECIPROCAL TRADE **LICENSE AGREEMENTS**

Support the acceptance of skilled & professional trades licenses across state lines, removing the barrier of retesting and schooling to recruit talent.



STATE, FEDERAL & REGIONAL POLICIES

Working together with local elected officials, regional South Central Kentucky Communities, Paducah, Owensboro and Hopkinsville, along with state associations like the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, Kentucky Association for Automotive Industry, Kentucky Association for Manufacturers and the Kentucky Association for Economic Development the Bowling Green Area Chamber of Commerce will work to promote a pro-growth and pro-jobs agenda. Our goal is to represent our diverse business community and ensure they have a voice in the legislative process.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

Reform Kentucky Unemployment Insurance Benefits

WINE SALES

Support legislation that allows the sale of wine in grocery stores

HEALTHCARE

Support legislation and policies that ensure employers in Kentucky can provide affordable, accessible health care to their employees and not be burdened by overreaching regulations and penalties under the federal law.

TRADE AGREEMENTS

Adopt trade agreements with other nations that add jobs for the region. (federal)

PENSION CRISIS

Provide relief from current pension crisis

ENERGY & ENERGY SERVICES

Ensure that federal and/or state policies and regulations protect the reliability and afford ability of energy and energy services in South Central Kentucky.

CONSUMPTION BASED TAX

Support a revenue neutral conversion to a consumption based tax revenue model, thus removing the personal and corporate income tax.



2018 LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

ALLIANCE CORPORATION

MR. TIM GEEGAN

AT&T KENTUCKY

MR. HANK MANGEOT

BILSTEIN COLD ROLLED STEEL

MR. MARK LOIK

BLUEGRASS SUPPLY CHAIN

MR. JOHN HIGGINS

BOWLING GREEN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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FIRST SECURITY BANK

MR. ADAM GALLOWAY

GRAVES GILBERT CLINIC

MR. CHRIS VOWELS

SOWDERS COMPANY DESIGNERS/BUILDERS

MR. DAVID SOWDERS

STAYBRIDGE SUITES/ HYATT PLACE

MS. ZOEY PRICE

WARREN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

MR. JOHN DIX

WARREN RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPERATION

MS. KIM PHELPS

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MS. ROBBIN TAYLOR

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