



THE CHAMBER'S 2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Chamber's Government Affairs & Advocacy Committee's goal is to serve as a voice for business with government and community partners throughout the region. The Committee is focused on implementing programming and providing resources to our members based on the following components:

- Enhance awareness of elected officials of the public policy needs of the regional business community.
- Increase member awareness of legislative advocacy to promote pro-business policies, programs, and services.
- Assist Chamber members to gain access to elected officials and policy makers.
- Establish regional public affairs partnerships.

COMMUNITY

- Support efforts to ensure continued community access to and availability of quality healthcare services.
- Fund and establish Amtrak passenger rail service from Scranton to New York City.
- Address the maintenance, repair, and expansion needs of transportation and communication infrastructure systems including roads, bridges, public transportation systems, telecommunications systems, broadband, and 5G networks.
- Support public education and awareness related to data center development.
- Encourage coordinated regional land use, economic development, and community-based initiatives.

WORKFORCE

- Develop policies to ensure access to affordable housing including incentives for private investments in constructing, preserving, and repurposing housing stock.
- Address systemic childcare challenges to support working families and ensure enhanced workforce participation.
- Develop and implement policies that facilitate integration of diverse talent into the workforce.
- Establish/promote internships and apprenticeships for regional secondary and post-secondary students.
- Advocate for workforce training funding reform to align resource allocation with local needs and priorities.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Secure public support for initiatives to expand the regional entrepreneurial ecosystem across all of northeastern Pennsylvania.
- Seek public support the re-development of the Carbondale Technology Transfer Center.
- Foster entrepreneurial growth by promoting public-private partnerships supporting professional development and access to capital.
- Expand opportunities to entrepreneurial growth in under-served communities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Support steps to increase the useful inventory of available industrial sites throughout northeastern Pennsylvania.
- Strengthen industrial enterprises through training, certifications, infrastructure improvements, and access to government contracts.

