



The Active Advocate

Top Legislative Priorities of the Northwest Oklahoma City Chamber in 2017

Economic Development & Taxation

- Oppose any expansion of sales tax to include services currently not collecting sales tax.
- Support retaining the state's effective economic & community development programs, which are critical in attracting new businesses to the state, encouraging investment in local communities and assisting in expansion of existing companies.
- Encourage tax policies that stimulate and advance small business growth in our economy as well as the revitalization of rural Oklahoma.
- Support every effort to level the playing field between community retailers and online merchants through effective enforcement in the collection of sales taxes.
- Support tax reform that grows Oklahoma's economy and is fair to all business.
- Promote diversification of Oklahoma's economy through policies that will grow technology and knowledge-based industries.
- Understanding that funding resources are needed, we are open to:
 - Eliminating wind tax credits.
 - Increasing cigarette tax.
 - Freezing any further triggers for the overall income tax rate.
 - Maintaining the grocery sales tax as it is.

Education & Workforce Development

- We support competitive funding for common education tied to regional levels. (Specifically, Teacher Pay in the Classrooms.)
- Development of new, broad-based portfolio of new revenue streams, or expansion of existing revenue streams, that does not disproportionately burden any taxpayer segment.
- Fundamental administrative reforms that allow more money to go directly to the classroom and provide school districts more flexibility to spend local funds.
- Support funding for Oklahoma's career technology and higher education campuses to ensure affordable tuition for our citizens and encourage the growth of our jobs and our economy.

Government Modernization and Pension Reform

- Support bringing Oklahoma into compliance with the REAL ID Act to ensure that Oklahoma families and businesses are able to travel, access services and engage in commercial activity without unnecessary cost and burdens
- Support pension reforms that sustainably fund governments' commitment to its employees and protect the financial stability of Oklahoma's state and local governments

Health Care

- Support the retention of viable employer-sponsored health insurance and encourage efforts to provide stability in the health insurance market.
- Support the use of an independent cost-benefit analysis to accompany any proposed health insurance benefit mandate.

Criminal Justice

- We support continued reform in Oklahoma's criminal justice system.
- Oppose efforts to overturn State Questions 780 & 781.

Beverage Laws

- We support the responsible modernization of the state's alcoholic beverage laws.