



Tempe Chamber Protects Local Business with First Ever Federal Agenda

Taking a bold new step to protect the business community during an economic crisis looming over the state of Arizona and the nation as a whole, the Tempe Chamber has issued its first ever federal agenda to best represent and defend the interests of its membership on a national level. Top items of immediate concern include the economy, taxes, immigration, infrastructure spending, education, workforce development and transportation.

“The Chamber will work diligently with the new administrations at the state and federal levels to ensure that the needs of its members and the business community at large are being served consistently and responsibly,” said Tempe Chamber of Commerce President/CEO MaryAnn Miller.

The Tempe Chamber supports making permanent cuts in the capital gains and dividend income tax rates to spur investment activity, create jobs, and expand the overall economy.

It believes that the federal regulatory system must be operated in an open and transparent manner to ensure new regulations are cost-effective, flexible, and a minimal burden on business.

It opposes the Employee Free Choice Act and the removal of the secret ballot provision in federal labor laws which protects the right of workers to effectively organize into a union.

It supports immigration reform to better secure our borders, the creation of a new temporary worker program, and a reasonable pathway to legal status for undocumented workers currently in the United States.

The Tempe Chamber support actions that will ensure an adequate infrastructure of critical resources for the state, enact policies to bolster the strength and education of the nation’s workforce, and ensure Arizona’s fair share of federal transportation dollars.

The mission of the Tempe Chamber of Commerce is to build an environment that enhances the economic vitality of its members. It represents more than 1,000 businesses employing more than 74,000 individuals and has a professional, full-time staff dedicated to serving the needs of its membership.

FULL TEXT OF THE TEMPE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S FEDERAL AGENDA



The Economy and Taxes – The Tempe Chamber supports further reform in the capital gains tax. Further lowering the capital gains and dividend income tax rates and making these cuts permanent will spur investment activity, create jobs, and expand the overall economy, benefiting individuals of all income levels.

The Tempe Chamber believes that the federal regulatory system must be operated in an open and transparent manner and that regulations should be based on sound, objective science. Furthermore, regulations should undergo rigorous technical analysis to ensure that they are cost-effective, flexible, and minimize regulatory burdens on business.

The Tempe Chamber opposes the removal of the secret ballot provision in federal labor laws. Regardless of political party, the strength of the opposition to the Employee Free Choice Act is strong. Members of Arizona's congressional delegation should be mindful of strong and overwhelming opposition to any congressional attempt to weaken the right of workers to have a secret ballot when determining to organize workers into a union.

Immigration - The Tempe Chamber supports continued work on comprehensive immigration reform to better secure our borders. It also supports the creation of a new temporary worker program so that employers can hire immigrant workers when U.S. workers are not available; and provide, under certain strict qualification criteria, a reasonable pathway to legal status for undocumented workers currently in the United States.

Infrastructure Spending - The Tempe Chamber supports action to ensure an adequate, necessary infrastructure of critical resources for the state of Arizona at all times, without placing any disproportion burden on business.

Education and Workforce Development - The Tempe Chamber will pursue strategic education and workforce policies at the federal level and programs to ensure that people have access to education and training that will teach them the necessary skills to enter and advance in the workplace.

Transportation - The Tempe Chamber supports measures by the Arizona congressional delegation to fight for Arizona's fair share of federal transportation dollars during the debate on the reauthorization of the Federal Surface Transportation program. The Chamber is also in support of the Surface Transportation Act.