



# THECHAMBER

WICHITA REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ONE OF THE **LARGEST**  
BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS IN KANSAS

## 2021 LOCAL POLICY AGENDA



### Business/Regulatory Environment

The Chamber supports policies that foster a competitive cost structure for businesses related to utility rates, property, income and sales taxes, as well as professional and business licensing fees. Government should make every effort to ensure services are sufficient to support the needs of a growing community, while holding the line on costs to ensure business owners and job creators keep as much revenue as possible to invest in growth and jobs. The Chamber supports a regulatory environment that is fair and nationally competitive where government lowers the barriers to entry for business owners and entrepreneurs. Government should assist and encourage business growth and start-ups by ensuring licensing and regulations are not restrictive and onerous. The Chamber is opposed to unjust shutdowns of businesses and regulations that restrict business activities.



### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Chamber urges local governments to support policies that strengthen access and opportunity for diverse populations and promote racial justice, including needed reforms to address racial disparities in the criminal justice system. Law enforcement and social service agencies should be adequately funded to ensure public safety and treatments for all citizens struggling with behavioral health or substance use issues.



SUCCESS FOR OUR MEMBERS  
LEADERSHIP FOR OUR COMMUNITY  
PROSPERITY FOR OUR REGION

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## Talent and Quality of Place

The Chamber supports investments in long-term quality of place initiatives, projects, and programs that attract, engage, and retain diverse young talent. To grow, our region must be a desirable destination for employers, entrepreneurs, and tomorrow's workforce. Local governments must make appropriate investments in job training and workforce development programs that encourage employment to grow the economy in the Wichita region. The Chamber supports policies that provide opportunities for veterans, transitioning service members, and military dependents to quickly transition into the workforce. The Chamber also backs policies that appropriately address mental health, homelessness, and substance abuse as issues that impact our region and employees.



## Transportation and Infrastructure

The Chamber believes that proper investment in transportation systems and infrastructure is a crucial component of a thriving economy. Investments in roads, bridges, rail, transit and airports, as well as sewer and water treatment facilities should be maintained as a regular part of city and county budgets. Local governments should do their part to address critical infrastructure needs in South Central Kansas, including regionally significant projects identified by the South Central Kansas Transportation Coalition.



## Digital Readiness

The Chamber recognizes that broadband is essential to economic opportunity, job creation, education, telehealth, and civic engagement. The Chamber supports initiatives and policies to ensure that the region's digital infrastructure is cutting edge and poised to meet the ever-transforming needs of the community.

## Points of Contact

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