



2024 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The Orange County Chamber of Commerce (OCCC) is dedicated to advocating for policies that promote a thriving business environment and enhance the quality of life in our community. Our legislative agenda for 2024 focuses on key areas critical to the success and growth of our members and the broader Orange County economy.

KEY LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Support for Small Businesses

- Tax Relief: Advocate for tax incentives and credits that benefit small businesses.
- Access to Capital: Promote programs that increase access to affordable financing options for small businesses.
- Regulatory Reform: Work towards simplifying regulations to reduce the burden on small business owners.

Workforce Development

- Training Programs: Support initiatives that provide job training and re-skilling opportunities to meet the needs of emerging industries.
- Educational Partnerships: Collaborate with local schools, colleges, and universities to align curricula with industry demands.

Infrastructure Investment

- Transportation: Advocate for investment in roads, bridges, and public transportation to improve connectivity and reduce congestion.
- Broadband Access: Promote the expansion of high-speed internet access to underserved areas to support business growth and remote work.

2. HEALTHCARE

Affordable Healthcare

- **Cost Reduction:** Support measures that reduce healthcare costs for businesses and employees.
- **Access to Services:** Advocate for policies that expand access to comprehensive healthcare services in Orange County.

Mental Health

- **Workplace Programs:** Promote the implementation of mental health programs in the workplace to support employee well-being.
- **Community Resources:** Advocate for increased funding for mental health services and resources in the community.

3. HOUSING

Affordable Workforce Housing

- **Development Incentives:** Support policies that incentivize the development of affordable workforce housing projects.
- **Zoning Reform:** Advocate for zoning changes that facilitate the construction of affordable workforce housing.

4. ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Sustainable Practices

- **Renewable Energy:** Advocate for incentives and policies that promote the use of renewable energy sources while being mindful to ensure the clean energy transition ensures the highest levels of reliability.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Support programs that help businesses adopt energy-efficient practices and technologies.

Environmental Protection

- **Clean Air and Water:** Promote policies that ensure the protection of our natural resources.
- **Sustainable Development:** Advocate for development practices that balance economic growth with environmental sustainability.

5. GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AND TRANSPARENCY

Regulatory Reform

- **Simplification:** Work towards simplifying business regulations and reducing bureaucratic red tape.

- Fair Implementation: Ensure that regulations are implemented fairly and do not disproportionately impact small businesses.

Transparency

- Open Government: Advocate for transparency in government decision-making processes.
- Public Participation: Promote policies that encourage public participation and input in government decisions.

6. PUBLIC SAFETY

Disaster Preparedness

- Emergency Plans: Support the development and implementation of comprehensive emergency preparedness plans.
- Business Continuity: Promote programs that help businesses prepare for and recover from disasters.

7. CHILDCARE

- Increase participation in the workforce by making childcare more readily available and affordable.

CONCLUSION

The OCCC's 2024 legislative agenda reflects our commitment to creating a vibrant, prosperous, and inclusive community. By advocating for these key priorities, we aim to support the growth and success of our members and enhance the overall quality of life in Orange County. We look forward to working with our members, local and state governments, and other stakeholders to achieve these goals.