



2023 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



Advocacy is the core responsibility of a chamber of commerce. To prevent anti-business legislation. Public policy significantly impacts businesses and their ability to operate.



**a new
kind of
chamber**

LEADING BUSINESSES
FORWARD

OUR MISSION

The Greater Mansfield Chamber of Commerce's purpose is to be a community catalyst for change that will create an impactful difference to the success of our members.

One of the core activities in support of our purpose is to advocate for pro-business policies and legislation to help businesses in the area grow and prosper.

It is critical that the members of the Texas Legislature who represent our city and our area hear and understand our legislative priorities for the 88th Texas Legislature. Our legislative agenda informs them of what we support and what we oppose in legislation we expect to be considered.



THE PRIORITIES

03

Education

To retain and attract employers to the Mansfield area will require a stream of qualified candidates for jobs in demand. We are served by a highly rated Independent School District, a Community College District focused on Workforce Development and a top tier research university that is graduating thousands of young professionals each year. We also have a Texas Tech Nursing School adding to our workforce. We are blessed that they work closely together to address our education needs at all levels. We support legislation that will continue and enhance our current, positive trajectory.

Workforce and Talent Development

Mansfield is experiencing an economic development growth period. To maintain our community momentum we support continuing the economic development tools that are instrumental in attracting new employers to our city.

Healthcare

Effective, affordable and available healthcare is necessary for Mansfield to prosper. Our members and their employees depend on the provision and regulation of healthcare by the state and the county.

Infrastructure

Mansfield prides itself on being “minutes to everything, second to none.” Maintaining that position in the North Texas market requires being connected to an efficient system of highway infrastructure.

STRONG SUPPORT FOR

04



Local Control

Preserving decision making authority for local leaders is critical to safeguarding the success of our region and the unique character of our communities.



Education

Accountability and assessment and access to high-quality tutoring in reading and math.

Funding based off of enrollment and not attendance for education to advance educational attainment opportunities, including workers seeking to obtain training in a new field by creating career pathways for the future workforce for our state.

Dual credit courses, early college high schools and advanced placement testing all reduce the number of credit hours that must be completed after high school and make college more affordable.



STRONG SUPPORT FOR

05



Workforce

Continue efforts of the Tri-Agency Initiative's to build a strong Texas workforce and ensure that Texans are prepared for jobs in the industries that power the state's economy today and tomorrow.

Increase the number of workforce credentials earned in high school by adopting the recommendation of the Texas Commission on Virtual Education



STRONG SUPPORT FOR

05



Healthcare

Identifying and addressing mental illness in Texas, additional funding and resources are needed for inpatient, outpatient, and community-based behavioral health services as well as mental health professionals in the K-12 educational setting for the identification and treatment of mental illness and substance use disorders.

Improve health care coverage and access by reducing the number of uninsured individuals and underinsured individuals.

Address the workforce shortages in healthcare and increase the supply of trained industry professionals, including greater funding and resources for physicians, nurses, behavioral health, and allied health professionals.

Increase funding to improve access to care, reduce barriers and provide cost savings for Texans, including utilization of telehealth..

Ensure that price transparency rules are enforced and eliminate remaining barriers for patients to obtain useful information on price and quality at the point of decision.

STRONG SUPPORT FOR

06



Infrastructure

Texas needs to pursue an “all of the above” strategy as part of its energy expansion. This includes robust oil and gas production along with the development and deployment of hydrogen, geothermal, battery storage, carbon capture and underground storage, and an expanded renewable energy portfolio.

Ensure the state's electric grid will be reliable, efficient, and sustainable to serve the needs of the state while planning for future demand for electricity. A power system to provide uninterrupted service at an acceptable price.

Ensure the Texas State Water Plan meets future water supply needs for the state's rapid population and economic growth.

Stable funding for the state's broadband efforts

To use Public-Private Partnerships to meet the growing needs of the state while stimulating the economy and creating jobs through the construction of transportation systems and other infrastructure projects.

To modernize systems across government agencies to reduce administrative burdens, increase efficiency, enhance transparency, and provide cost savings to businesses and taxpayers.