

FEDERAL AGENDA

As the federal government's role in funding state government and other far-reaching policies are debated in Washington, it is more important than ever to stay on top of this debate to inform and help prepare member companies to deal with these changes. Health care reforms, tax policies, environmental regulations and sweeping changes to labor laws have all been introduced and debated this year. The Chamber has weighed in on a number of issues with Kentucky's Congressional delegation, reached out to Congressional staff on a number of issues and traveled to Washington for face-to-face meetings. We also maintain our involvement in federal issues with coalition partners and our relationship with national business advocacy groups.



Focus on federal priorities

In order to help foster a positive business environment to support job growth, the Kentucky Chamber supports the following federal priorities.

Support meaningful health care reform that:

- makes affordable coverage available.
- promotes personal responsibility and consumerism.
- encourages wellness and prevention.
- provides favorable tax treatment for employer-sponsored coverage.
- does not arbitrarily impose additional costs on business.
- does not create a government-run option.

Support sensible environmental policies that:

- support the use of renewable and alternative energy.
- will protect our nation's economic competitiveness.
- promote innovation and technology as a solution.
- recognize coal as an important part of our energy mix.
- will not place a disproportionate burden on Kentucky's economy.

Support labor laws that:

- protect secret ballot elections to form unions.
- maintain a company's ability to educate employees.
- do not include binding arbitration provisions.
- will not impose one-sided penalties.
- do not upend years of carefully balanced labor laws.

Support tax and budget policies that:

- recognize a balanced approach to investments and expenditures.
- do not place U.S. companies at a competitive disadvantage.
- promote job growth and investment.
- promote equity and ease of compliance.
- are equitable to all businesses regardless of size.

SMALL BUSINESS AGENDA

Small businesses are responsible for the majority of job growth in the Commonwealth. The Chamber's Business Agenda recognizes the importance of small businesses to grow the Kentucky economy. Our issues are small business issues.



COMMITTEE CHAIR

Tierra Kavanaugh Turner,
CEO, TKT & Associates,
Louisville

Supporting small business

In order to help foster a positive business environment to support job growth, the Kentucky Chamber supports the following small business priorities.

- Strongly encourage education and workforce development
- Support equitable unemployment insurance policies
- Advocate workers' compensation laws that protect the rights of employers
- Promote an impartial civil justice system
- Protect against unfair labor laws
- Support meaningful health care reform
- Maintain a watchdog role in the regulatory process
- Oppose arbitrary wage and hour mandates
- Advocate fair tax treatment for small businesses
- Support entrepreneurial development and access to capital
- Oppose state and federal encroachment into free enterprise



**Small firms have generated
64 percent of the net new
jobs in the U.S. economy
over the past 15 years.**

U.S. Small Business Administration

LOOK FOR:

small business

This icon represents Chamber policy statements that impact small businesses. Look for it throughout this document.