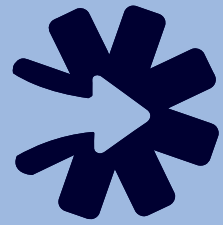


Allen Chamber

2027 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



Purpose

The Allen Chamber of Commerce advocates for a strong, vibrant economy by serving as the voice of business in state policy discussions that affect our business community. This document outlines the Chamber's positions on key issues that impact the long-term economic health, quality of life, and competitiveness of our community. It is the product of direct feedback from our members and local elected officials and reflects commitment to the Chamber's pro-growth values.

The Chamber believes the business community must be an active participant in the policymaking process. State decisions around infrastructure, workforce, taxation, education, and economic development have a direct impact on employers of all sizes and industries. By engaging constructively with state leaders, the Chamber ensures that the needs and perspectives of the business community are represented, helping to shape policies that foster prosperity.

Target Audience

- Members of the Allen Chamber of Commerce
- Members of the Texas Legislature and Texas regulatory agencies
- Staff of elected officials and policymakers

Education and Workforce

Support adequate and sustainable funding for Texas public schools to meet the cost demands of inflation, state mandates, and the recruitment and retention of highly qualified teachers and staff. Oppose legislation that would result in a reduction of funding to public schools or an increase in mandates that are not fully funded by the state.

Support the ability of eligible Texas community colleges to offer additional bachelor's degrees in industry fields that demonstrate a strong workforce need.

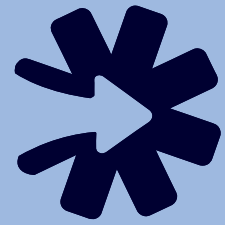
Support continued investments and updates to the community college finance legislation House Bill 8 (2023) including the consideration of out-of-state school credit transfers.

Support increased access to affordable, high-quality childcare.

Support resources and pathways for reskilling and upskilling for in-demand occupations, including expanded access to certificates, microcredentials, or other credentials of value to meet the needs of Texas employers.

Allen Chamber

2027 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



Infrastructure

Support enhanced investment in transportation infrastructure and mobility for the safe and efficient movement of commerce and people across North Texas, ensuring Collin County receives its fair share of state funding commensurate with the area's growth.

Support continued investment in Texas's electric generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure necessary to ensure reliable, affordable power and sufficient capacity is available to meet the long-term needs of businesses and consumers of our growing state.

Support continued investment in water supply acquisition and water infrastructure necessary to ensure capacity and reliability to meet the state's long-term water demand.

Support the development of modern digital infrastructure to keep Texas at the forefront of job creation and economic development.

Business Climate

Support a predictable and competitive regulatory environment that encourages business formation, expansion, capital investment, innovation, and job creation.

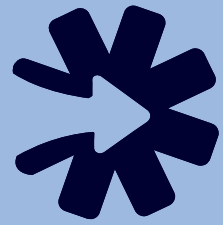
Support balanced and sustainable consideration for both businesses and individuals when pursuing tax relief for Texans.

Support the continued use and maintenance of economic development programs that enhance tourism, job growth and capital investment in Texas.

Support parity between members and non-members of mass transit authorities to access economic development tools while also addressing transportation needs.

Support litigation reform to help Texas businesses defend against fraudulent and inflated claims that increase the cost of doing business and impacts affordability for Texans.

Support efforts to designate Allen as the E-Sports Capital of Texas.



Local Government

Support local decision-making, policy implementation, resource allocation, etc. when appropriate, allowing communities to address unique needs with stronger local accountability, while recognizing the essential role of state government in providing an overarching framework for governance.

Support the ability of local governments to engage with government relations professionals, trade associations, and other stakeholders to communicate with state legislators or agencies.

Support consideration of local governments' investment in public safety in any proposed legislative reforms to a City or County's ad valorem taxes.

Support thoughtful local control that allows Texas communities to meet the unique housing needs of their local workforce, including zoning decisions and housing supply.

Health Care

Support expanded access to affordable, quality health care by expanding employer insurance options.

Support funding mechanisms such as local provider participation funds.

Support increased investment in community-based and hospital-based behavioral and mental health services.

Support addressing workforce shortages with an expanded health care talent pipeline and promoting workplace safety measures to protect against risks of violence in health care settings.