



# 2024 Legislative Affairs Priorities

## BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

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### Position Statement

Members of ChamberWest believe strong partnerships between business and government are essential to thriving economies and world class communities. We believe there are five major areas where all levels of government have a significant impact on businesses and their operations and success.

- Services (Law enforcement, Fire protection, etc.)
- Taxes and fees
- Infrastructure (Roads, Energy, etc.)
- Economic Incentives
- Regulations

It is the position of the Chamber that when government makes changes in any of these areas, the impact is felt throughout the many businesses in the community. The impact of these changes may negatively impact the operations, profitability, and viability of businesses. It may impact employees, (their salaries, benefits, and engagement), the general public, shareholders, and ultimately, the economic well-being of the community.

It is the position of the Chamber that proposed changes in these key areas should be reviewed against certain principles to ensure sound outcomes for the business community and the public at large. These key principles include:

**Consistency** – Changes typically cost money, time, and training to implement. Consistency over time leads to increased value to customers, stronger tax revenues, and friendly relationships between government and business;

**Equitability** – All businesses should be treated equally with consistent requirements. If economic/tax incentives are offered, they should be available to all businesses and fair across industries or sectors of the economy;

**Dependability** – Government services and infrastructure should be available and maintained on a consistent basis to ensure businesses can predictably operate in a safe business environment and reasonably make plans and projections to budget for future growth and improvements;

**Transparency** – When changes are made, businesses should be heavily involved early in the discussions so that both short-term and long-term impacts can be clearly defined and considered in a transparent fashion. General consensus through collaborative communication promotes positive outcomes fostering strong relationships. Chamber members will work to build strong partnerships and have a strong desire to collaborate with and support all government entities to our mutual benefit.

Our economy, our community, and our nation will be stronger, more productive, and able to provide better services and products to consumers when government and businesses maintain a strong partnership of working together on important issues and concerns. This environment will bring about the best solutions for our future economic growth.

### Subcommittee Members

Ron Bigelow, Chair

Mary Hargis, CRS Engineers

Tim Sheehan, Salt Lake Community College

Jeff Worthington, Utah AFL-CIO

Stephen Smith, Utah Inland Port Authority

Makaila Kelso, Spherion

Jill Burton, Dominion Energy

Bryan Scott, The City Journals

Rick Clasby, Utah Trucking Association

Suzanne Oliver, Mountain America Credit Union

Greg Fisher, Granite Mountain Storage

Trena Anderson, Deseret First Credit Union

Casey Bulkley, Valley Fair Mall

Davina Spencer, Ruff Tuff Products

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