

## 2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

***Frisco Chamber Mission: To protect and promote commerce through advocacy, resources, and connections.***

***Government Affairs Mission: To inform, engage, and advocate for the business community regarding relevant public policy.***

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE FRISCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

1. The government shall do no harm to the Frisco area business community or economy.
2. The government should limit taxes and government regulation except when doing so would constrain business growth.
3. The government should focus on issues and priorities that foster a favorable business community and job growth in the region including streamlining processes.
4. The government should maintain local control by keeping as many decisions and regulations as possible at the governance level closest to the people.
5. The Frisco Chamber of Commerce will take a “long-term” perspective in all of our advocacy efforts...not trading our future for short-term gains.
6. The Frisco Chamber of Commerce will advocate for legislation that promotes or maintains a fair and competitive business environment.

### **Business**

#### ***Business Regulation***

- Support legislation that promotes business and job growth by reducing barriers to free market enterprise at the local and global levels.
- Promote legislation that limits tax requirements that stifle business growth at all levels.
- Oppose legislation that limits the ability of the business community to engage in electoral and policy-making arenas.
- Support initiatives that increase trade opportunities for businesses.
- Oppose any unfunded mandates that will create taxation on local businesses.

#### ***Economic Development***

- Oppose legislation limiting the City’s/County’s 4A Economic Development tools and support legislation to continue, maintain and protect the utilization of state and local funds for purposes of economic and community development, including but not limited to, the Texas Enterprise Fund (TEF), the Texas Emerging Technology Fund (TETF), Section 380 Agreements, Tax Increment Financing (TIF), and other economic development tools such as 4A and 4B, plus Chapter 380 and 312 tools.
- Promote legislation that supports a revision of the expiring Chapter 313 tool for local school district options.

#### ***Public Education***

- Support legislation to increase workforce supply and resilience by increasing funding for public education (PK-12) and higher education institutions.
- Support legislation that continues funding of H.B. 3
- Support legislation to continue to allow school districts to count as present for the purposes of Average Daily Attendance (ADA) students participating in virtual learning programs including locally-developed and approved online courses.
- Support investment in technology and connectivity to promote accessible learning for students across Texas.
- Support legislation that requires at least one semester of financial literacy education as a graduation requirement for all students.

*Approved October 18, 2022*

### ***Higher Education & Workforce***

- Support Community College finance reform that improves outcome-based funding that incentivizes student success in the workforce.
- Promote legislation that maximizes partnerships between the business community and education institutions, resulting in increased workforce opportunities for students and businesses.
- Support local decision-making legislation designed to allow voters the ability to determine participation in revenue bonds for higher education entities

### ***Health Care***

- Support policies that promote market-based healthcare solutions that increase access to and choice of healthcare programs.
- Oppose legislation that mandates at the state and federal levels, benefits that significantly increase costs to employers and employees.
- Promote legislation that supports access to healthcare through an increased supply of healthcare workers and utilizing innovative delivery methods resulting in economic and time management efficiency.

### **Infrastructure**

- Support legislation that promotes and funds reliable and sustainable infrastructure development including the following: electric grid, mobility, water resources, and broadband.
- Support legislation that aims to maximize the opportunity for innovation in all areas of energy production, storage and delivery, resulting in lower energy costs for businesses and the community.
- Support legislation ensuring that infrastructure planning is coordinated with local growth and proactive to the growth.
- Promote legislation and funding for improved mobility through multiple channels.
- Oppose efforts that would increase the cost or slow delivery of materials needed for public and critical infrastructure.
- Support continuing the policy of no diversions from the Highway Trust Fund.

### **Governance**

#### ***Local Control***

- Support policies that allow the local government to improve the local business community.
- Oppose attempts to limit or prohibit municipalities from using public funds to communicate with legislators and state agencies, as well as pay membership dues to organizations that hire lobbyists designed to promote the wellbeing of the business community.
- Support legislation that aims to make beneficial amendments to H.B. 2439, the building materials bill, allowing for local policy-making decisions and enforcement.
- Oppose unfunded mandates placed on local municipalities.
- Oppose legislation that would limit a local municipality's ability to make sound decisions directly related to the wellbeing of the business community.

#### ***Emergency Management / Disaster Recovery***

- Allow and promote decision-making at the city and county levels to appropriately address needs of the business community and community at-large.
- Support legislation and executive orders that treat all businesses equally while dealing with an emergency or public health crisis global health crisis.