



REGIONAL ADVOCACY AGENDA

The Regional Advocacy Agenda is a collaborative effort from the Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC, Lancaster Chamber, Greater Reading Chamber Alliance, Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce and York County Economic Alliance. The following topics are the top priorities of the region. The Chambers, as listed above, believe these priorities will allow for this region to be economically competitive throughout the commonwealth and the nation.

STATE PRIORITIES

Pension Reform:

Urge Pennsylvania's public pension crisis be comprehensively addressed, inclusive of a focus on reducing the unfunded liability, to create a sustainable public pension system that protects business and individual taxpayers while providing retirement benefits for state, municipal, and school district employees.

Economic Development:

Urge state investment in successful economic development initiatives that promote job creation and economic growth in our region.

- Support expanding Revitalization and Improvement programs.
- Support programs that encourage partnerships between the public and private sector to address community development needs focused on urban revitalization and central business districts.

Workforce and Education:

- Support Right to Work legislation that ensures the right to employment without the requirement that employees join or support a labor organization as a condition of employment.
- Support adequate state investment in workforce development, K-12 and higher education, and career and technology training.
- Partner in efforts to promote diversity, inclusion and fairness in the workplace.

Transportation:

Support a coordinated regional multi-modal transportation study focused on determining road priorities and opportunities for mass transit, air and passenger rail expansion.

FEDERAL PRIORITIES

Regulatory Reform:

Advocate for a regulatory system that considers the views of communities and businesses and evaluates the impact regulations will have on jobs and businesses.

Healthcare:

Advocate for revisions to the Affordable Care Act that will improve the system and provide maximum flexibility to encourage (rather than mandate) employers to provide health insurance.

Immigration:

Support immigration reforms that create a clear and streamlined system that make rules and boundaries clear for immigrants, citizens and employers.

- Support visa and green card reforms and implementation of temporary worker programs for skilled workers and international students.

Transportation:

Support a new funding structure for roads to meet 21st Century needs, to further growth and efficiency.