

CAPITAL ACCESS

The Tempe Chamber supports appropriate bank reforms that address regulations that harm local banks and reduce access to the capital that financial services businesses need to grow.

ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- The Tempe Chamber supports energy policies that increase and diversify energy supplies from alternative, traditional and renewable sources; promote energy efficiency across all sectors; and modernize and protect energy infrastructure.
- The Tempe Chamber supports federal policies on energy and the environment that keep our nation competitive for business location in the global economy. The Environmental Protection Agency should not act outside the bounds of the authority granted to it by Congress.

FISCAL POLICY

The Tempe Chamber strongly advocates the importance of building upon strategic best practices to produce reasonable short-term solutions and long-term financial forecasting and aiding the structural deficit.

- The Tempe Chamber encourages Congress to maintain regular order, and to do nothing to jeopardize the credit of the United States.
- The Tempe Chamber supports federal income tax reform that broadens the base and lowers rates for businesses and individuals alike.
- The Tempe Chamber supports preserving the long-term solvency of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid by slowing the growth of benefits.

HEALTHCARE

The Tempe Chamber supports health care policies that provide relief to employers and employees. The Tempe Chamber supports modernization of reforms to the Affordable Care Act including:

- Reduce the harm of the employer mandate by restoring the 40-hour work week.
- Repeal taxes that increase premiums and cost jobs such as the 40% excise tax, medical device tax, and the health insurance tax; and
- Improve flexibility for tax-preferred accounts that encourage careful health care spending like FSAs, HSAs, and HRAs.
- The Tempe Chamber supports expanding access to coverage and services by strengthening the employer-sponsored system.

IMMIGRATION

The Tempe Chamber supports federal policy to properly seal our porous borders, respond to the labor needs of the economy, and resolve the issues of illegal immigrants already living in the U.S. We support comprehensive immigration policy reform that:

- First and foremost, strengthens border security. From guarding the physical border to better tracking of expired visas, we must stem the tide of illegal immigration.
- Creates a secure, reliable system for employers to verify the legal work eligibility of employees. Employers need a federally based, user-friendly, low-cost, non-discriminatory method to ensure they are complying in good faith with the law.

IMMIGRATION CON'T.

- Establishes a market-based immigration process to support a wide range of workforce needs and to respond quickly to the employment demands of US businesses. Legal international workers play an integral part in the US economy.
- Develops criteria and establishes a guest worker/visa program for illegal immigrants already in the US with no other criminal or arrest record in both the US and their countries of origin, which is based on strictly enforced criteria, including payment of penalties. Productive, integrated members of our society should be given an opportunity to continue to add to our economy.
- Reimburses states for the costs of incarcerating, educating and providing health care for individuals in the country illegally. The Federal Government should take responsibility for the breakdowns in federal immigration policy.

LABOR LAWS

- The Tempe Chamber opposes legislative and administrative changes that create an uneven playing field in union elections.
- The Tempe Chamber opposes any legislation that would hamper the employer/employee relationship or job creation.

REGULATORY REFORM

The Tempe Chamber supports removal of unnecessary government regulations that impede business innovation or efficiency. The Chamber supports requiring careful cost-benefit analyses by federal agencies before enacting new regulations that add costs to business.

- The Tempe Chamber supports streamlining the exceptional events process by authorizing states and tribes to make case-by-case determination as to when natural conditions, windblown dust and other forces outside of their control cause an exceedance of air quality standards.
- The Tempe Chamber supports requiring administrative changes to go through the formal rule-making process. Rules must be consistent with the laws under which they are written.

TRADE

- The Tempe Chamber supports a free-trade policy that recognizes that global trade, capital, and talent are fundamental to a successful free enterprise system. The Tempe Chamber also supports the modernization of the North American Free Trade Agreement.
- The Tempe Chamber supports extending the border zone to the entire state of Arizona to make it easier for pre-cleared Mexican visitors holding border crossing cards to travel to the entire state.

TRANSPORTATION

The Tempe Chamber supports Arizona receiving its equitable share of federal transportation dollars.

WAGES

The Tempe Chamber supports the integration into the workforce of persons with all levels of disabilities through the continuation of commensurate wage rules.

The Tempe Chamber of Commerce represents more than 650 businesses who employ nearly 70,000 people. For more than a century, the Tempe Chamber has been dedicated to sustaining Tempe's quality of life and keeping our community and economy vibrant. The Tempe Chamber develops policy on key federal, state and local issues and influences legislation and other public policy decisions. The Tempe Chamber creates a strong voice for the Tempe business community, improves and enhances the business climate, and furthers Tempe's quality of life through a strong economy.