

Infrastructure & Transportation

- Preserve Oklahoma's state highway funding and protect the Eight-Year Construction Work Plan as a primary input into the safety and well-being of our citizens and the growth and sustainability of the state's economy.
- Support implementation of transit programs that will best serve central Oklahoma including the Central Oklahoma Transit and Parking Authority (COTPA) 2005 Fixed Guideway Transit Study, which includes the Association of Central Oklahoma Government's (ACOG) Regional Transit Dialogue Committees to identify regional transit alternatives/solutions.
- Work with the RTA, ACOG, municipal governments, ODOT and Class 1 railroads to conduct early-stage planning for introducing commuter rail service.
- Support initiatives that direct transportation user fees to be used for transportation purposes.
- Preserve Oklahoma's airport funding and protect the Three-Year Airport Capital Improvement Program.

Natural Resources

- Support the retention and protection of the private property aspects of Oklahoma's surface and groundwater laws.
- Support funding for water resource infrastructure development.
- Support incentives for or voluntary initiatives to increase water conservation, reuse, or other similar efforts statewide to develop water availability.
- Support the investment made by Norman citizens in Lake Thunderbird as their primary drinking water source and one of the state's largest tourism destinations.

Norman State Legislators

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2020
STATE
LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

NORMAN
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

Norman Chamber of Commerce

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NORMAN
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

IMPACT
Norman

TOP PRIORITIES

The Norman Chamber's Government Affairs team is dedicated to ensuring the Norman business community's voice is heard on the municipal, county, state and federal levels.

1. Maintain **teacher pay** at the regional average and lower average class size in Oklahoma to the national average.
2. Support **local control of school funding** by raising the cap on local millage by a vote of the people.
3. Restore and protect funding for the **University of Oklahoma**.
4. Support retention of both the **Small Employer Quality Jobs Act** and the **Quality Jobs Act**.
5. Support amendments to Oklahoma's liquor laws to address concerns from local package stores.

Economic Development & Taxation

- As part of an all-inclusive energy approach, support a stable and reliable tax structure for all energy development that protects existing investment and promotes new capital investment in Oklahoma.
- Encourage tax policies that stimulate and boost small business growth.
- Protect community's ability to use Tax Increment Financing.

Education & Workforce Development

- Develop a long-range funding solution that allows for better planning and operation by Norman Public Schools, Moore Norman Technology Center, and the University of Oklahoma .
- Align Oklahoma's education system to the needs of the state's current and future workforce through supporting the full implementation of Oklahoma's new, rigorous standards that encourage critical thinking and innovation and ensure that every child is college and career ready upon graduation.
- Work with Oklahoma institutions of higher education, career technology centers, and other educational entities to strengthen the state's workforce pipeline, specifically targeting industry-identified demand such as aerospace and technology.
- Support Oklahoma's research institutions and their programs that attract and leverage new federal and private funding opportunities, commercialize new technologies and create the high tech and STEM jobs needed to be globally competitive in an innovation economy, such as state investment in the National Weather Center, Stephenson Cancer Center and University of Oklahoma engineering programs.

Health Care

- Improve the Insure Oklahoma premium assistance program designed to make health insurance more affordable for small businesses while assuring the program's long-term stability and the funding source remains dedicated to Insure Oklahoma!
- While maintaining opposition to state and federal mandated health insurance benefits, support the use of an independent cost/benefit analysis to accompany any proposed health insurance benefit mandate
- Support legislation expanding reduced-mandate health care plan options.
- Support and promote resources for employers, such as Employee Assistance Programs, for workplace training and screening programs in behavioral health in an effort to reduce Oklahoma's ranking among all states as third highest in mental health disorders and second highest in substance abuse problems
- Support funding and construction for a new state mental health hospital in Norman.

Labor & Lawsuit Reform

- Continue to develop changes in Oklahoma's civil justice system that will make it more responsive to the needs of business, and protect recent reforms.