



**DAYTON**  
Area Chamber of Commerce



**LEGISLATIVE &  
REGULATORY  
AGENDA**

**2023-2024**

DaytonChamber.org | Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce  
8 N. Main Street, Suite 100, Dayton, Ohio 45402





2023-2024

# LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY AGENDA

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**Workforce & Talent  
Development**



**Equity &  
Inclusion**



**Business  
Attractiveness**



**Infrastructure &  
Transportation**



**Military & Veteran  
Attractiveness**

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*The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce is **the voice** for the region's business community. The chamber employs three registered lobbyists who are dedicated to advocating for business friendly initiatives, regulations and legislation while maintaining the integrity of the legislative process. Our members' policy needs come first, and we will strive to achieve those policy goals through advocacy, education, networking and partnerships.*

*As we look to the 2023-2024 legislative sessions, we'll be focusing our efforts on the priorities outlined below. This work is empowered by the ongoing input and support of the chamber's many committees, volunteer leaders and key community partners. Ultimately, we believe these policy priorities will ensure the Dayton region is one in which businesses can grow, prosper and thrive.*





## WORKFORCE & TALENT DEVELOPMENT

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The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce will work to reduce legislative and regulatory barriers to employment, ensuring our businesses have a broad and deep pool from which to recruit talent. We'll advocate to expand education and job training, with supports for reskilling and upskilling the current workforce as well as specific opportunities to connect our students to in-demand careers in Ohio. The Dayton Area Chamber will support efforts to grow Ohio's population and make the state and the Dayton region more attractive for talent.

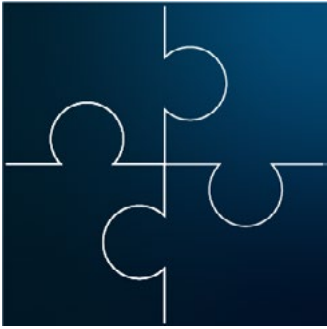


### KEY POLICIES

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- Increase the number of internships, apprenticeships and work-based learning experiences available in our region and expand both employer incentives and education partner supports.
- Advocate for common-sense immigration reform and integration support for employers seeking to connect to the immigrant and refugee populations.
- Identify opportunities to better connect employers with potential talent pools, including veterans, recent retirees and people with disabilities.
- Continue funding TechCred and other workforce training incentives focused on closing the skills gap.
- Advance flexible and funded childcare supports at the local, state and federal levels that allow more parents & caregivers to return and stay in the workforce.
- Advocate for innovative workforce transportation & housing solutions that leverage public, private & worker investments.
- Pursue strategies to alleviate the public assistance benefits cliff.
- Support strategic incentives to retain Ohio's college graduates (e.g., Grow Ohio).

# EQUITY & INCLUSION



The Dayton Area Chamber will champion diversity, equity and inclusion and support our employer community in building and expanding inclusive workplaces. The Chamber will provide continued advocacy and leadership

in the growth of minority, women and veteran owned businesses. We will ensure that the chamber represents the interests of the business community across our entire region.

## KEY POLICIES

- Remove barriers to growth for our minority, women and veteran owned businesses.
- Support efforts to increase the job & advancement opportunities for minority, women and veteran talent.
- Leverage local, state and federal digital inclusion efforts to ensure both our urban and rural communities have the resources they need to thrive in the digital age.
- Support expanding Ohio's anti-discrimination laws to include sexual orientation, gender identity and gender protection as protected classes.
- Champion hiring opportunities for restored citizens & supports for employers to tap this talent pool.
- Advocate for the disaggregation and dissemination of key workforce data at the local and state levels in order to make better policy recommendations.
- Strengthen relationships with state and local government leaders throughout all 14 counties in the Dayton region.

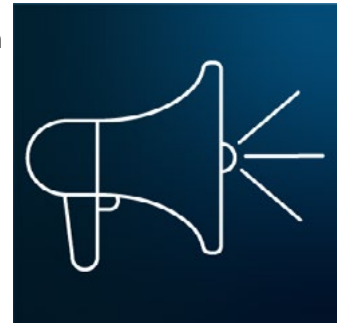
# BUSINESS ATTRACTIVENESS

The Dayton Area Chamber will be a leader in advocating for business friendly policies at the local, state and federal levels that ensure our economy is able to grow and thrive and that Ohio is able to attract and retain a vibrant business community. We will also work to cut red tape and remove barriers to entry for businesses and workers looking to open in or re-locate to Ohio.

The chamber will be the voice of our regional business community, leading lobbying and advocacy efforts throughout the 14 county region to support economic and business growth.

## KEY POLICIES

- Lessen the municipal, state and federal income tax complexity and burden for businesses and continue to champion comprehensive tax reform.
- Advocate for business priorities outlined in the FY 2024-2025 state operating budget and in the state capital budget.
- Support statewide ballot issue reform which protects the state Constitution and reduces out-of-state interests from putting future frivolous issues on the Ohio ballot.
- Champion the efficiency and transparency of licensure and permitting across governmental departments to remove red-tape for businesses.
- Advance occupational licensure reform to provide greater opportunities to expand our skilled workforce in Ohio.
- Leverage the influence of the business community to improve the civic and political climate in the Dayton region and the State of Ohio by identifying opportunities for bi-partisan collaboration and civil discourse.



# INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION

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The Dayton Area Chamber will continue to promote a cost effective and efficient infrastructure utility system, including gas, electric, water, sewer, telecommunications and broadband that allows our community to operate efficiently and spurs economic development for our entire region.

The chamber will ensure the Dayton region maximizes highway and roadway investments, supports investments in workforce transit and SmartCities technology and continues to champion expanded air service in Dayton. Through the Dayton Area Logistics Association, the chamber will continue to support the growth of the logistics and distribution industry in Southwest Ohio.



## KEY POLICIES

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- Expand local, state & federal supports to improve & grow air service at the Dayton International Airport.
- Advocate for local, state and federal energy & utility solutions that prioritize accessibility and affordability, promote infrastructure deployment and ensure that Ohio's economic development is supported.
- Support increased local transit funding to improve workforce transportation access.
- Eliminate state sales tax on the purchases of forklifts and conveyors for the logistics industry.
- Remove federal barriers for qualified pilots and crews to support air service operations.
- Advocate for the FY 2024-2025 state transportation budget:
  - Grange Hall Interchange at I-675. This project will provide a full functioning interchange and efficient ingress and egress at WPAFB.
  - Terminal Access Road and Freight Drive at DAY. This project will rehabilitate roadways at Dayton International Airport.
  - Wilmington Pike I-675 Interchange. This project will improve the interchange and provide congestion relief to this rapidly growing area.
  - Rt. 35 on-ramp/off-ramp access between I-75 and Steve Whalen Blvd.
  - Local roadway improvements to support business and logistics growth around the Dayton International Airport.





## MILITARY & VETERAN ATTRACTIVENESS

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The Dayton Area Chamber will advocate for the continued growth and expansion of federal assets in the region and policies that make the Dayton region more attractive for our service members, veterans & their families. Partnering closely with Wright Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB), the Dayton VA Medical Center and other federal installations, the chamber will work to eliminate future sequestration budgets, prioritize the acquisition of new missions and champion the expansion of key WPAFB missions.

We are committed to ensuring that the Dayton region and the State of Ohio are friendly to military and veteran families, and advancing quality of life initiatives that are critical in determining where new military missions will be located and enhancing the economic competitiveness of our state.

### KEY POLICIES

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- Support increased flexibility for military families to determine K-12 school options, including scholarship opportunities and district enrollment.
- Expand tuition incentives and better connect federal tuition assistance reimbursement for Ohio's veteran community & their dependents.
- Expand DOD SkillBridge locations across the Dayton region.
- Increase the visibility and accessibility of mental health & wellness resources for our veteran community.
- Support Small Business Innovation & Research (SBIR) growth opportunities.
- Increase WPAFB mission attractiveness through strategic infrastructure, workforce and defense contractor attractiveness.



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### OHIO SUPREME COURT

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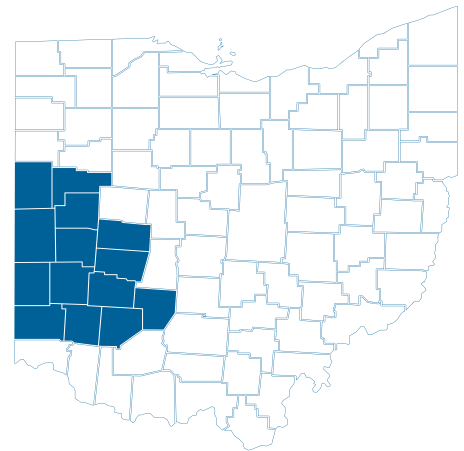
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