



PRO-BUSINESS PRIORITIES & POSITIONS

[BUSINESS CLIMATE & FISCAL POLICY]

Support current tax incentives that facilitate capital investment and job creation, including the Georgia Job Tax Credit and the tier system
 Support tax policies that make Georgia attractive for statewide work force arowth while avoiding undue shifts in tax burden

• Target crime and enhance public safety through investments and policy solutions, and through partnerships with law enforcement entities at the local, state and federal levels

 Support legislation that establishes a clear standard that business and property owners can follow as they implement procedures to protect their employees and customers

Support policies that diversify housing options and incentivize development of work force housing

 Oppose policies that increase regulations and costs on housing development
 Support investments, programs and policies that facilitate entrepreneurship and innovation in Georgia's hub communities

- Support changes to the civil justice system which reduce lawsuit abuse, thereby reducing insurance, freight and raw material costs

[TALENT & WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT]

• Promote policies that bolster the full work force talent pipeline in partnership with K-12 education, technical and higher education, and the business community

Support policies that increase access to funding for in-school youth, technical and higher education training

- Support policies that increase awareness and access to higher education options for Georgians and DACA recipients

Support the expansion of occupational licensing opportunities for qualified, license-seeking individuals

- Support policies that leverage opportunity populations, bolster the work force and facilitate economic mobility

- Support the strengthening and expansion of career planning resources for students and young professionals

- Support career planning programs which highlight opportunities that exist in local economies

Expand public support of Pre-K slots to increase access to early learning education

[HEALTH CARE]

- Support policies that expand Georgia's health professions pipeline, including appropriate licensure reform to grow Georgia's health care work force and increase investments in programs that support Georgia's high-demand health care industry

- Support initiatives and investments that expand access to care and strengthen regional health care delivery

· Support efforts to enhance Georgia's trauma care network

Adopted by the Albany Area Chamber Board of Directors, October 2023 albanyga.com

FUNDING PRIORITIES

• \$17.2 million for design, construction and equipment for Albany Technical College's Criminal Justice Demonstration Center and campus-based Georgia VECTR Center to support work force needs for law enforcement and upskill military veterans and their families for civilian re-entry, respectively. Co-located with the demonstration center, VECTR Center will provide accelerated programs in high demand and strategic industries tailored to abbreviate the process of receiving post-secondary certificates and degrees by recognizing the extensive training veterans receive during their military service.

• \$7 million for construction of the Billy C. Black Building at Albany State University to improve operational efficiencies and support student success factors by relocating key student experience-related offices and academic programs out of the 100-year flood plain.

[INFRASTRUCTURE]

Support studying the benefits of extending I-185 through Albany and the extension and expansion of Georgia Highway 300 through Albany
 Support programs and policies that expand Georgia's ability to move goods and services to end users across the state, particularly increasing the level of

public investment in the assets that support these critical functions
Support legislation that assists in deploying privately funded technological infrastructure advancements that connect communities across the state
Bolster the creation and implementation of public-private partnerships to further all infrastructure improvements

 Support initiatives to strengthen community and economic infrastructure at the local level including, but not limited to, small business, education and work force opportunities

[DEFENSE]

Support policies, investments and partnerships that strengthen Georgia's defense communities

 Support policies and programs that incentivize a strong work force that includes defense personnel, veterans, military retirees and military families
 Support policies that ease defense family transition into the state, including promoting licensure portability, school choice options and occupational licensing reform for military spouses

• Support statewide coordination of Georgia's defense communities, including through the Georgia Joint Defense Commission, as well as incentives that ensure the security and stability of current and future defense operations at installations, training centers and other entities supporting Georgia's defense communities

[NATURAL RESOURCES]

• Preserve and enhance access to high-quality, affordable water supplies for businesses and communities in the Albany Area and Southwest Georgia

ADDITIONAL FEDERAL PRIORITIES

Support policies, investments and partnerships that bolster Georgia's Hub communities

Support policies, appropriations and partnerships that facilitate readiness and capabilities at Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany

Support policies that incentivize a strong work force that includes defense personnel, veterans and military families

Protect business owners from profit-based litigation that uses the threat of lawsuits to extort payments

 Support smart immigration policy reforms to support work force demands, boost economic growth, create jobs and encourage innovation and entrepreneurship

Support policies and legislation that provide equal tax treatment of brick-and-mortar and online retailers

Support policies that encourage growth and modernization of telecommunications and energy infrastructure

Support policies that expand access to and improve affordability of high-quality health care services

• Ensure agricultural producers are operating on a level playing field as they compete with growers around the globe

Ensure fair, non-retaliatory tariffs on U.S. exporters