

2021

U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

POLICY PRIORITIES





The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business organization representing companies of all sizes across every sector of the economy. Our members range from the small businesses and local chambers of commerce that line the Main Streets of America to leading industry associations and large corporations.

They all share one thing: They count on the U.S. Chamber to be their voice in Washington, across the country, and around the world. For more than 100 years, we have advocated for pro-business policies that help businesses create jobs and grow our economy.

THE STATE of

AMERICAN BUSINESS

2021

2020 and the coronavirus pandemic brought uncertainty and suffering to communities, families, and businesses on an unprecedented scale. Economic disparities and the inequality of opportunity were laid bare while the country battled record unemployment as well as widespread business losses and closures. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce was in the arena fighting for relief, clarity, and protections for America's businesses every step of the way.

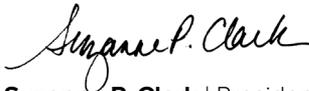
The new year and the vaccine rollout bring renewed hope, and we are optimistic about the economy's future. As always, sound public policy can support faster growth and job creation and a more broad-based economic recovery, while misguided policies will hold back our nation. That is why the Chamber's mission to advocate and advance the interests of American businesses in Washington, across the country, and around the world to enact the right policies at every level is so critical, now more than ever.

This booklet highlights some of the Chamber's key policy priorities to help rebuild our economy, communities, and nation in 2021 and beyond.

We hope you'll join us as we rally for recovery.



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2021 FOCUS— ECONOMIC RECOVERY



While the topline numbers of economic recovery are impressive and underscore the American business community's overall resilience, beneath the headlines is an uneven, K-shaped, recovery. Some businesses and sectors have not only recovered from the pandemic's impact, but also they are outperforming their pre-COVID baseline. Other businesses and sectors continue to struggle. Business closures and unemployment are heavily concentrated in just a few sectors. It is critical that public policy continues to support the hard-hit sectors until the vaccine's widespread availability allows the economy to fully reopen.

We also know that the post-COVID economy will be different in many ways. The Chamber's 2021 agenda includes several priorities focused on positioning the economy for the strongest possible recovery. Our agenda includes the following:

- A robust, broad-based infrastructure package to support the economy today and place the U.S. on a higher growth trajectory.
- Expansion of skilling and reskilling opportunities to help those who are out of work acquire the new jobs that are being created now and in the future.
- Immigration reform to ensure that innovators create jobs here and help our nation meet its workforce needs.
- Updated rules of the road for the increasingly digital economy and the new ways millions of Americans choose to work.
- Creation of new opportunities for American companies to sell to the 95% of consumers that live outside our borders.

It has not been frequently reported, but something remarkable has happened amid the pandemic: New business formation is booming—up nearly 50%. These new businesses will help fuel our economic recovery. Still, many of these entrepreneurs and innovators won't see their businesses reach full potential if they face an onslaught of new government regulations. The Chamber will continue to fight on Capitol Hill, through the rulemaking process, and in the courts if necessary, to prevent regulatory overreach.

ANTITRUST AND COMPETITION POLICY

Create a vibrant economy by ensuring competition in a free and open market economy.

- Advocate that antitrust laws remain relevant and capable of addressing anti-competitive concerns that arise in today's marketplace.
- Preserve the role of antitrust as being distinct from the role of regulation in the market.
- Protect the "consumer welfare" standard and not allow antitrust to advance unrelated public policy goals.
- Ensure that both the law and enforcement in non-cartel matters are governed by the "rule of reason" and grounded in sound economic analysis.
- Support the understanding that antitrust respects legitimate property rights, including intellectual property rights.
- Oppose efforts to create antitrust laws that would single out specific companies or industries.
- Oppose efforts to change the law to shift the burden of proof in antitrust cases away from the government.
- Continue to support the "substantial harm" standard used to evaluate mergers.
- Support the need for the two antitrust agencies to remain aligned and oppose measures that empower one agency over the other.
- Contain any efforts by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to expand the use of Section 5 beyond the traditional antitrust laws.

- Oppose expanded FTC antitrust rulemaking authority.
- Avoid the politicization of antitrust enforcement by elected officials.
- Combat similar changes to antitrust laws at the state level.

International

- Counter efforts to use antitrust as an industrial policy tool to achieve protectionist goals that circumvent commitments to trade and open markets.
- Advance better cooperation among antitrust authorities to limit divergent approaches.
- Promote due process in antitrust investigations.

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CAPITAL MARKETS AND FINANCIAL REGULATION

Advance America's global leadership in capital formation by supporting innovative, fair, transparent, efficient, and diverse capital markets.

Make it easier for companies to go public and reform the proxy advisory industry

- Finalize reform recommendations to help more companies grow and go public, including changes to corporate governance systems, corporate disclosure, shareholder proposal rules, secondary market trading, and more investor research for small public companies.
- Implement reforms to the proxy advisory industry recently finalized by the SEC—an industry dominated by two firms, riddled with conflicts of interest, and a major impediment to companies going public.

Reform bank capital and liquidity rules and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)

- Defend the risk-based pricing system by demonstrating that credit information and other risk-based indicators support a safe and inclusive financial system.
- Support policies that allow for a well-capitalized banking system without unnecessarily constraining bank lending to consumers and businesses.
- Work with the CFPB and Congress to ensure that the Bureau's primary focus is to preserve consumer access and choice to financial services products.

Promote recognition of the U.S. system of insurance and obtain relief for end-users of derivatives

- Engage with domestic and international policymakers regarding international capital and supervisory standards to avoid disruption in insurance markets and preserve the U.S. system of insurance regulation.
- Advocate through the U.S. Chamber-led Coalition for Derivatives End-Users for legislative proposals to remove unnecessary costs on the use of derivatives by commercial end-users.

Uphold best interest rules that protect investors and preserve their choices and access

- Uphold the SEC's Regulation Best Interest (Reg BI) rule that enhances the standards of conduct for financial professionals advising retail investors.
- Advocate for the alignment of the Department of Labor's rules with Reg BI and exemption relief for brokers complying with Reg BI to ensure they are not found in violation of ERISA.
- Prevent a patchwork of conflicting state regulations.

Promote a regulatory environment that incentivizes financial services innovation

- Clarify the regulatory and legal framework for digital assets to promote market certainty and support America's position as a global leader.
- Advocate for and participate in federal and state initiatives (e.g., tech sprints, pilot programs) that establish an evidence-based approach to financial services innovation.

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CYBERSECURITY

Support sound cybersecurity policies to protect critical infrastructure and facilitate safe and secure domestic and global commerce and trade.

Cybersecurity

- Support legislation to codify a collaborative relationship between key critical infrastructure sectors and the intelligence community.
- Promote the use of common cyber risk management frameworks and standards-based regulation domestically and internationally and strengthen public-private partnerships to protect critical infrastructure between industry and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).
- Support the establishment of the Office of the National Cyber Director within the Executive Office of the President. The office will assist the American business community in navigating federal policy initiatives and the interagency processes and preparing for and responding to significant cyber events.
- Pass Internet of Things (IoT) legislation that reflects the industry-led core security baseline protects device makers and buyers, reduces policy fragmentation globally, and bolsters collective defense.
- Advance the rapid and secure deployment of 5G domestically while ensuring that national and international policy is aligned; promotes open, interoperable, and virtual radio networks; is risk-based; and fosters a vibrant technology market that rewards security and innovation.

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EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE

Promote access to affordable, high-quality education, career paths that lead to jobs, and workforce initiatives that create a more equitable talent marketplace and strengthen the American economy.

Early Education, K-12 Education, and Child Care

- Support the expansion of high-quality early education programs.
- Improve K-12 education through rigorous academics, accountability for performance, and choices for parents and families.
- Maintain statewide annual assessments and disaggregation of data as these are critical to understanding how students are performing in school. These important data help inform personalized support for children based on their individual needs. During this unprecedented time where most students are attending class virtually, many are challenged with access to technology. And it's estimated that minority students may lose up to a year of learning, so measuring their actual progress could not be more important.
- Ensure that every student graduates from high school prepared for the next step—whether college or career.
- Expand the availability of high-quality childcare options.

Higher Education

- Support innovation in higher education while holding institutions accountable for their performance.
- Improve transparency to empower students, parents, and policymakers to make informed decisions.
- Improve financial aid programs and systems, including private-sector innovations in higher education finance, which improve college access and affordability while incentivizing outcomes.

Workforce Training

- Ensure that training and retraining programs align with employers' needs based on accurate and timely local labor market data.
- Support employer-led earn and learn opportunities, including apprenticeships.
- Incentivize more effective and efficient partnerships between education and workforce systems.

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ENERGY

Foster a commonsense energy strategy to help keep America secure, prosperous, and clean.

- Maintain and enhance America's energy security through expanded domestic production and investments in energy technology innovation.
- Facilitate the construction of new energy infrastructure.
- Streamline the permitting process while ensuring safe and environmentally responsible projects.
- Ensure a regulatory process that provides transparency, predictability, and consistency.
- Facilitate investment in lower-emitting generation, mobile, industrial, and agricultural technologies.
- Increase access for production of domestic natural gas, wind, oil, geothermal, and solar energy on federal lands.
- Enact legislation to direct government research and encourage private investment in tomorrow's technologies, including energy storage, carbon capture utilization and storage, and advanced nuclear.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Promote and advance collaboration between citizens, government, and business to create practical, flexible, predictable, and durable policies and solutions that improve our environment and grow our economy.

Climate Policy and Resilience

- Inform and contribute to the discussion of proposed climate change policies, including market-based mechanisms, technology deployment incentives, nontraditional infrastructure, Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance (ESG), and climate reporting.
- Advance and support technology innovations and other solutions to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- Support international engagement on climate policy, including through participation in the Paris Accords.
- Facilitate climate-resilient infrastructure, including water and watershed management, flood control, and drought response, through funding and policies to support pre-disaster mitigation and planning.
- Support private sector efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in business operations through investments and technology innovation.

Water Infrastructure and Water Policy

- Promote increased federal, state, and local investments in water infrastructure modernization, including innovative funding approaches and private capital mobilization.
- Encourage investments and promote policy solutions specifically focused on the agricultural sector's needs, small communities, and small businesses, including improved access to rural water and sanitation.
- Increase technology innovation through a national program to collaborate and share best practices and promote exports of water technologies, products, and services.
- Advance regulatory flexibility, alternative compliance, and innovation for stormwater management, including the importance of green infrastructure.
- Facilitate financial and technology solutions and the private sector's role in addressing water and wastewater challenges along the U.S.-Mexico border.
- Engage business stakeholders to ensure appropriate flexibility and risk-based, sound science in developing regulatory approaches for emerging contaminants such as PFAS.

Recycling

- Support policies that enable flexibility and infrastructure to grow markets for recycling and recycled products, including addressing marine litter.

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EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

Develop real, sustainable solutions to help close race-based opportunity gaps in six focus areas: education, employment, entrepreneurship, criminal justice, health, and wealth.

On the Federal Level

- Improve access to capital.
- Promote investment and employment in designated opportunity zones.
- Reform federal hiring restrictions.
- Close the digital education divide.

On the State and Local Levels

- Eliminate unnecessary occupational licenses.
- Increase school choice options and access to education.
- Reform penalties for unpaid fines and support other criminal justice reforms.
- Advocate for fair chance hiring.

Through Best Practices / Partnerships With the Private Sector and Our Federation Members

- Increase supply chain diversity.
- Inspire diverse entrepreneurs and support the growth of minority-owned businesses.
- Increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace and company leadership.
- Expand talent pipeline management, workforce training, and skill acquisition to under-served communities.
- Break down barriers to personal finance and savings.
- Ensure access to health care for everyone.

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HEALTH CARE

Expand access to and improve the affordability of high-quality health care services for all Americans.

Access and Affordability

- Enable greater flexibility for businesses as they offer health care coverage to their employees.
- Support the expansion, offering, and enrollment in diverse coverage options, including Association Health Plans, Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangements, and value-based insurance products.
- Adopt policies to stabilize the individual and small group markets.
- Improve access to meaningful cost and quality information for consumers while protecting private companies' ability to enter into negotiated contractual arrangements.
- Facilitate the adoption of value-based payment models and reward high-quality providers based on outcomes.

Wellness, Innovation, and Value

- Facilitate and promote workplace wellness programs.
- Protect consumer safety by stopping unregulated foreign drug imports and curbing the opioid epidemic.
- Oppose price controls and efforts that reduce contractual flexibility in our health care system.
- Oppose the expansion of new public programs such as Medicare buy-in, public option, and the ultimate adoption of a single-payer, government-run health care system.
- Support reforms that lead to more value-based, quality-focused, and coordinated care.

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IMMIGRATION

Implement commonsense immigration reforms to enhance America's global competitiveness and encourage economic growth and job creation in the U.S.

- Seek cap increases and other pro-growth reforms to employment-based visa programs that will allow employers to meet their critical workforce needs in a timely manner.
- Protect Dreamers and Temporary Protected Status (TPS) recipients from losing their ability to live and work in the U.S.
- Enact improvements to our nation's border security efforts.
- Roll back regulations and other administrative actions that have hamstrung employers' ability to hire or continue employing the legal immigrant workers they need.
- Work with public and private stakeholders to return international travel and tourism to pre-pandemic levels and in a manner that prioritizes the health and well-being of international travelers and workers in the travel industry.

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INFRASTRUCTURE

Ensure the nation's long-term economic growth and competitiveness by enacting an infrastructure modernization plan.

Roads, Bridges, and Transit

- Enact changes to ensure sufficient dedicated revenue to maintain the long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund.
- Enact a long-term infrastructure modernization bill focusing on surface transportation programs and air, sea, rural broadband, energy, and water infrastructure. Provide infrastructure project sponsors with a toolkit of options for supplemental funding and financing of other critical infrastructure, including through public-private partnerships, dedicated user fees, and revolving loan programs.

Permitting and Regulatory Reform

- Build upon previous efforts to streamline the federal permitting process, including the use of concurrent reviews and time limits for agency decisions.
- Encourage similar permitting reforms at the state and local levels.
- Oppose efforts to reregulate transportation industries.

Infrastructure and Transportation Workforce

- Highlight workforce shortages in the infrastructure and transportation sectors and push for regulatory reforms and skills programs to address these shortages.
- Ensure that any new infrastructure modernization legislation provides opportunities for all segments of the population to participate in the design and construction of modern infrastructure.
- Ensure that infrastructure modernization provides equal benefits and a better quality of life for all Americans.

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP)

Promote innovation and creativity globally by supporting strong IP standards that produce jobs, save lives, advance global economic and cultural prosperity, and generate breakthrough solutions to global challenges.

- Support strong, consistent rules on IP by demonstrating how it provides a foundation for the solutions needed to navigate and eventually eradicate the global pandemic.
- Localize the innovation story using the latest data to show how communities large and small depend on IP-intensive industries to stay connected, healthy and entertained.
- Advance a global political consensus for IP standards that enable the allocation of resources to long-term, high-risk, and capital-intensive investment in innovation, creativity, and craftsmanship
- Deliver an industry vision for the next generation of trade agreements drawing on the U.S. Chamber's Global Innovation Policy Center's (GIPC's) multisector expertise.
- Help disrupt criminal networks that traffic in counterfeit and pirated goods by working with law enforcement, U.S. Ports of Entry, and the Office of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator to promote best practices.
- Combat efforts abroad and domestically to implement price controls and other market access barriers that prevent innovators and creators from earning a fair return on investment.
- Show how global best practices for IP—highlighted in the Chamber's signature research product, the International IP Index—support a country's innovative and creative potential, create high value-added jobs, and attract international investment.

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE, INVESTMENT AND REGULATORY POLICY

Secure market-opening trade agreements that deliver free and fair trade for American workers, farmers, and companies.

- Support the pandemic response by lifting tariffs and other barriers to trade in medical supplies and working with international partners to eliminate export restrictions.
- Rescind the Section 232 tariffs, which have not advanced the U.S. national security objectives at the heart of the underlying statute while undermining U.S. alliances and trade ties.
- Press for a China policy that seeks improved access to the Chinese market, advances structural reforms in China and tariff relief through new negotiations, and works with allies globally to counter the challenges posed by China's state capitalist policies.
- Advocate for comprehensive, high-standard trade agreements—including with the U.K. and Kenya, in the Asia-Pacific, and by reviving the Trade in Services Agreement negotiations—as well as new digital trade agreements.
- Secure approval of legislation renewing Trade Promotion Authority, the Generalized System of Preferences, and the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill.
- Press for reform of laws delegating tariff authority to the Executive by requiring an affirming vote by both chambers of Congress for any new tariffs.

- Advocate for trade and sustainability initiatives, including moves to eliminate tariffs on environmental goods and a robust outcome in the World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations to discipline fisheries subsidies and thus combat the depletion of fish stocks.
- Support the benefits of U.S. membership in the WTO and press for reforms to make it more agile as a negotiating forum, including greater use of plurilateral approaches along with reforms to restore its Appellate Body to a fully functional state.
- Oppose punitive measures relating to supply chains or excessive reliance on Buy American measures that invite foreign retaliation and instead advance policies to foster resiliency through incentives, mitigate risk through geographic diversity of supply, and avoid new trade barriers.
- Advocate for a conduct-based approach to economic sanctions that target specific, clearly articulated objectives; favor multilateral measures to ensure effectiveness and avoid backfill; and maintain Executive flexibility to respond to changing circumstances.
- Support full funding of the federal international affairs budget to advance U.S. economic interests, national security, and humanitarian values.
- Work to secure ratification of treaties to avoid double taxation concerning taxes on income with Chile, Hungary, and Poland.

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LEGAL REFORM

Champion a fair legal system that promotes economic growth and opportunity.

- Fight to preserve the availability of arbitration and other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Push for the enactment of commonsense COVID-related liability solutions at both the federal and state levels.
- Fight back against litigation drivers such as plaintiffs' trial lawyer advertising and third-party litigation funding while supporting legislation like the Litigation Funding Transparency Act.
- Contain the growth of nuclear verdicts and efforts by states and localities to engage in trial lawyer-driven speculative litigation.
- Work to preserve key overenforcement reforms that rein in enforcement overreach, including programs designed to provide credit for effective compliance programs as well as limits on excessive enforcement of key statutes like the False Claims Act and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.
- Push back against attempts to expand class and mass action litigation, including the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, securities litigation, and mass torts such as asbes tos litigation.
- Expose fraud and abuse by the plaintiffs' trial bar.
- Fight the spread of class actions and other problematic U.S.-style litigation features abroad.

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RETIREMENT

Promote policies that provide retirement security through private sector solutions.

- Work with Congress to increase retirement savings and security by making it easier for all employers and other private entities to offer retirement plans and retirement security solutions.
- Update employee benefit notices to provide meaningful information efficiently and effectively while protecting plan sponsors.
- Encourage employers to offer financial wellness programs suited to their employees' demographics and needs while limiting compliance burdens.
- Modernize the multiemployer pension system through pension funding relief, including funding and governance reforms.

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SMALL BUSINESS

Advance a policy environment that enables small businesses to hire, grow, and flourish in America's free enterprise system.

- Provide the resources necessary for small businesses to survive the COVID-19 pandemic and thrive during an economic recovery.
- Enhance the ability of small businesses to find, hire, and retain qualified and willing employees.
- Oppose workplace mandates that disproportionately raise the cost of doing business for Main Street employers.
- Support the Small Business Administration (SBA) Office of Advocacy's ability to act independently for small businesses in the federal government.
- Expand opportunities for small firms to buy and sell goods on a global market and to do so without the burdens of intellectual property abuses and restrictive tariffs.
- Support infrastructure legislation that enables small businesses to provide timely delivery of goods and services enhances their ability to compete for government contracts fairly and streamlines the procurement process for small firms to work on public construction projects.

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SUPPLY CHAIN

Promote sound policies that reflect the economic needs of facilitating trade and the free movement of goods to increase U.S. competitiveness.

- Advance a coherent and cohesive overarching strategy to secure America's information and communication technology (ICT) supply chains that incentivize resilience and the efficient use of public and private sector time, resources, and money and harmonize dozens of government programs.
- Champion legislative solutions that modernize ports, solve e-commerce challenges, address security gaps, and improve trade facilitation.
- Engage with regulators to enact commonsense policies that enhance U.S. competitiveness and improve the flow and security of goods moving across our borders.

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TAX

Promote pro-growth tax policies that preserve America's global competitiveness and increase businesses' ability to grow, invest, and create jobs.

- Advocate for continued pro-growth tax policies in relevant tax legislation and permanency of pro-growth provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (e.g., full expensing, R&D).
- Prevent rollback of any parts of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act's pro-growth provisions and oppose anti-growth tax policy proposals.
- Continue to work with the administration on regulatory issues.
- Continue to work with the administration, Congress, foreign governments, and governing organizations to achieve a multilateral consensus on the digital economy's taxation.

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TECHNOLOGY

Promote the role of technology in our economy and advocate for rational policy solutions that drive economic growth, spur innovation, and create jobs.

Privacy

- Advocate for passage of national privacy legislation that protects all Americans equally, promotes innovation, and is enforced by existing federal regulators and state attorneys general.
- Educate federal and state lawmakers about the benefits of the data-driven economy and the cost of overregulating data.

Communications Leadership

- Support Congress, the Federal Communications Commission, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture in connecting rural Americans to broadband through smart funding, regulation, and permitting.
- Advocate for federal legislation and regulatory action to streamline and reduce regulatory barriers to 5G, wireline, wireless, and other communications infrastructure.
- Oppose efforts to regulate broadband like a public utility.
- Engage members on the best use of federally allocated spectrum.

Emerging Transportation Technologies

- Educate policymakers and the public on the benefits of emerging transportation technologies, including unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), automated vehicles (AVs), and urban air mobility (UAM).

- Encourage the development of policies that further U.S. global leadership in these emerging transportation technologies.
- Advocate for light-touch legislative and regulatory approaches for emerging transportation technologies and engage with agencies such as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the Department of Transportation, and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- Advocate for a policy environment that promotes federal investments in open data and AI research and development, U.S. leadership in AI-related standards, and a favorable regulatory environment.
- Work with public- and private-sector leaders to educate the public, the media, the business community, and policymakers on AI's benefits across industries.
- Oppose bans and moratoriums on AI applications, such as facial recognition.

Government IT

- Support long-term government digital transformation with increased funding and coordination with government agencies to modernize state, local, and federal information technology systems.

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U.S. CHAMBER LITIGATION CENTER

Advocate for fair treatment of business in the courts and before regulatory agencies.

Challenge unlawful governmental regulation

- Bring lawsuits against unlawful regulatory actions.

Defend free enterprise in the courts

- File amicus curiae briefs and intervene in cases supporting free enterprise on all issues of importance to the business community in courts throughout the judicial system.

Key issue areas

- Arbitration and class actions
- Tort and novel theories of liability
- Plaintiffs' forum shopping
- Excessive civil and criminal enforcement
- Energy and environment
- Capital markets and financial regulation
- Labor and employment
- Technology, innovation, and antitrust
- Trade and immigration
- Tax

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SPACE POLICY

Support policies that allow us to leverage Space’s vast economic potential for the U.S. and humankind.

Deep space exploration

- Support critical NASA human spaceflight programs to include the Space Launch System (SLS) and the Exploration Upper Stage (EUS), Orion spacecraft, Exploration Ground Systems (EGS), and Gateway necessary for the Artemis Program to deliver crew and equipment to the lunar surface.

Low-Earth orbit presence

- Advocate for robust funding for the maintenance and operation of the International Space Station (ISS) as it marks its 20th anniversary of continuous crewed habitation and prepares for another decade of microgravity science and commercial research.

Safety of operations

- Promote safety, flight efficiency, and cost avoidance for space launch and commercial aviation operations in the National Airspace System (NAS) and on-orbit improvement of space situational awareness (SSA) to mitigate conjunction risks.

Commercial space opportunities

- Encourage the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) commercial spaceport growth and reform of the International Space Station (ISS) National Lab for additional private sector microgravity research.

Regulatory streamlining

- Ensure the implementation of the Federal Communications Commission’s satellite licensing reform, the Department of Commerce’s commercial remote sensing rulemaking, and the FAA’s regulatory streamlining of commercial space launch and reentry license requirements.

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WORKPLACE POLICY

Promote workplace policies that enhance economic growth and job creation.

- Support legislation to improve the unemployment insurance system, including shoring up state trust funds, upgrading technology, and preventing fraud.
- Pass the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act to help workers and employers understand their obligations concerning accommodations and reduce litigation.
- Prevent House and Senate passage of the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act, legislation that would allow for “card check” organizing instead of secret ballot elections; impose binding first contract arbitration; abolish state right to work laws; authorize “secondary boycotts” against employers with no role in a labor dispute; prevent employers from having any role in elections to decide whether their employees will be unionized; codify the National Labor Relations Board’s “quickie” election regulations; create an unworkable definition of “joint employer”; and make using independent contractors almost impossible.
- Defeat any legislation that includes California’s definition of independent contractor status, the so-called ABC Plus test.
- Prevent the passage of legislation that eliminates employer defenses for allegations of pay disparities or discrimination claims.
- Support the ability of employers to utilize arbitration as a means to quickly and equitably resolve workplace disputes.
- Ensure that any new workplace regulations or mandates in areas like minimum wage, paid leave, and joint employment are business-friendly and do not impose unworkable burdens on employers.
- Defend the Department of Labor’s current independent contractor rule and work with Congress on a modern approach to worker classification to include portable benefits.
- Help shape state policies and legislation on the following:
 - Independent contractor status
 - Occupational licensing
 - Paid family leave
 - Preemption
 - De Minimus time under wage and hour law

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