

public policy



DAYTON

Dayton Area
Chamber of Commerce

Legislative & Regulatory Agenda

2009 » 2010

Introduction

The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce continues to serve the Dayton region as the advocate for the business community. In a concerted effort to fulfill our mission and the commitment we have made to our members, we have been able to establish the Chamber's reputation as the primary advocacy resource available to businesses and organizations in this community. As we look toward the future, the Chamber's public policy staff will work to ensure that the Dayton region is one in which businesses choose to invest.

Advocating for business friendly initiatives and legislation while ethically maintaining the integrity and dignity of legislative process is paramount to our legislative activities. Our members' policy needs come first, and we will strive toward 100 percent satisfaction and achievement through advocacy, education, networking and partnerships.

During the 2009 – 2010 legislative sessions, the Chamber will continue to serve the business community and promote business-friendly policy at the local, state and federal levels of government.

Creating new relationships and fostering established ones are essential elements to the success of our advocacy initiatives and was demonstrated to Dayton Chamber members through a \$13 - \$1 return-on-investment for the Chamber's legislative and regulatory activities.. The Chamber prides itself on achieving these relationships and positive legislative results through education, grass roots advocacy and community collaboration. With limited resources available, these efforts are realized by the skills of our registered lobbyists on staff and through volunteers who dedicate their time and strengths to benefit Dayton area businesses and their public policy needs.

The Chamber's legislative agenda serves as a guide for the legislative and regulatory priorities that it maintains and helps direct the Chamber's public policy success.

The Chamber commits to our members and the greater Dayton region that we will always strive for legislative and regulatory success for the Dayton business community.



Transportation & Infrastructure

Advance and protect the Dayton region's business community through strategic transportation advancements aimed at increasing economic development and business growth opportunities.

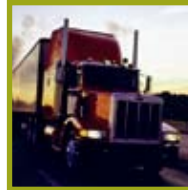
Advance the community's transportation and infrastructure upgrades and improvements through state, federal and local advocacy, and through support of the Montgomery County Transportation Improvement District.

Continue to be the lead private sector representative advocating for funding for regional transportation improvements. Continue to work towards the investment goal of \$1.2 billion in regional transportation advancements.

Maintain advocacy efforts to support and increase air travel at the Dayton International Airport and the Wright Brothers South Airport. Support economic development opportunities adjacent to the airports.

Monitor the state and federal transportation budgeting process to continually ensure priority infrastructure projects receive adequate attention from state and federal officials.

Educate legislators, staff and agency officials on the changing infrastructure needs and efforts of the Dayton region.



Tax & Regulatory Reform



Promote federal, state and local tax policies that reduce the financial burden on businesses and allow them to invest valuable dollars to expand and grow their company and the local economy.

Partner with all state agencies to remove regulatory burdens on the Dayton area business community and support the growing business industries and initiatives throughout the Dayton region.

Advocate for the elimination, reduction or maintaining of state administrative fees that directly apply to the Dayton area business community. Advocate for the continuation and development of administrative incentive programs that help support and grow businesses throughout the Dayton region.



Protect employer's rights to equitable labor management practices and ensure that employers are able to implement fair and just personnel management policies for their employees and staff.

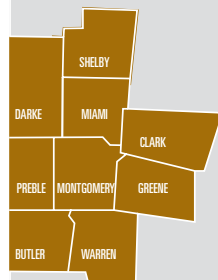
Regional Cooperation

Maintain and increase regional partnerships and advocacy that cross jurisdictional boundaries and compliment parochial priorities. Nurture and enhance the surrounding nine county region through joint collaboration and advocacy.

Enhance regional advocacy through the Chamber's LEADer program that focuses on regional business community collaboration and unified advocacy through partnerships with surrounding chambers of commerce.

Preserve the Chamber's presence as a regional advocate for the business community while continuing to partner with other business community representatives on legislative priorities.

Regionally advocate for the growth of new and expanding industries that compliment the growth of the area's largest employers and manufacturers.



National Defense

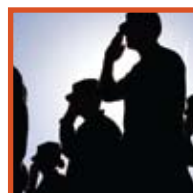
Preserve and strengthen relations with surrounding military bases and federal organizations while facilitating emerging business opportunities for local companies and defense contractors.

Collaborate with Wright Patterson Air Force Base and the federal government to support contract procurement and individual job opportunities within the community.

Promote Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) initiatives that bolster the role of local active duty, reserve and guard bases, particularly through the training and acquisition of a larger area workforce. Strengthen the relationship with local, state and federally elected officials and other regional development organizations to voice the benefits of air base growth for businesses and the community.

Utilize members of military and fraternal organizations to provide guidance and insight on the positive impact of the base and its programs.

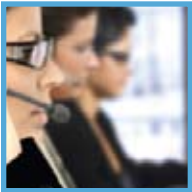
Encourage state-educated professionals in science and technology-related fields to view the Dayton area as a viable and exciting career option. Support workforce development initiatives that will help strengthen and educate a local workforce for WPAFB and defense related employers.



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Trade



Advocate the enactment of local, state and federal cooperation agreements that expand global trade opportunities for Dayton area businesses. Emphasize the economic, social and political significance of interactions with common industrial sectors present in developed and developing countries.

Aid free market expansion through trade promotion authority that plays an important role in opening world markets to local businesses and streamlining approval of trade agreements. Oppose obstacles to international business practices while encouraging the effective implementation of U.S. trade laws. Encourage local organizations to recognize the importance of the growing international economy and support global economic and trade opportunities for Dayton.

Support the local services offered by the U.S. Department of Commerce, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the International Trade Administration through joint business development programs.

Safety



Promote safe and healthy working environments through cost-effective training and education programs to member businesses to prevent lost-time injuries and accidents within the Dayton business community. Serve as the regional resource to provide relevant updates on changes in standards and policies from state and federal agencies. Work with federal and state agencies and employer groups to provide fair and understandable regulations and standards to improve and implement workplace safety.

Work in cooperation with state and local agencies to assist members of the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce and control workers' compensation costs through education, awareness and cost-saving initiatives.

Advocate on behalf of the Dayton region's business community to encourage continued incentives for employers that promote safe workplace environments by educating and training workers, such as the Safety Council Incentive Program. Work to ensure fairness in the workers' compensation system through dialogue with the Industrial Commission, the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, and the state legislature.

Promote the development of additional incentives that assist employers that promote safety, training and education and informed decision-making in the workplace.

Energy & Environment

Advocate on behalf of businesses in the Dayton region to ensure that legislative and regulatory changes are based on sound science and comprehensive information and do not economically disadvantage the Dayton business community.

Promote greater cooperation between state agencies and local businesses to streamline services and limit requirements that place additional burdens on businesses, while not compromising environmental quality in the Dayton region.

Continue to partner with local environmentally responsible businesses and organizations to advocate on behalf the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce to lower energy costs and ensure members are able to access affordable energy services.

Support and expand “green initiatives” at the local, state and federal levels that emphasize alternative energy, energy efficiency and cost –saving opportunities for businesses. Foster advancements in alternative energy technology, and provide information and support for businesses seeking to improve sustainability practices



Education

Advocate for the enhancement of strong education standards that will ultimately prepare students to compete in a high-tech global workforce.

Support and advance programs that encourage students to choose careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields. Work with community partners to make the Dayton region a center for STEM education in the United States.

Partner with local businesses to provide engaging learning opportunities to students in the region through the development of internship programs, co-ops and teacher training. Encourage businesses to take an active part in the STEM pipeline, from early childhood through post-secondary education.

Support our region’s institutions of higher education through promotion of research and development programs that showcase our region as a center for cutting-edge technology and development.

Health Care

Continue to support market-based solutions to the country’s health care crisis to make private and public health care more affordable and accessible without placing undue burdens on employers.

Partner with regional organizations to promote education and awareness opportunities that will help small and medium-sized businesses address health care costs, such as: overuse of health care services and the impact on health care costs, developing consumer-driven health care markets, health savings accounts, and the cost of health care mandates.

Advocate on behalf of the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce within local, state and federal forums to work toward a solution to the country’s increasing uninsured population that does not require unreasonable measures be fulfilled by the business community.

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Contact List Of Government Officials

GOVERNOR OF OHIO

The Honorable Ted Strickland
77 S. High Street, 30th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
614-466-3555
www.governor.ohio.gov

LT. GOVERNOR OF OHIO

The Honorable Lee Fisher
77 S. High Street
Columbus, OH 43215
www.ltgovernor.ohio.gov

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Honorable Richard Cordray
30 E. Broad Street, 17th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-3428
614-466-4320
www.ag.state.oh.us

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE

The Honorable Mary Taylor
88 E. Broad Street, 5th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
614-466-4514
www.auditor.state.oh.us

OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE

The Honorable Jennifer Brunner
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215
614-466-2655
www.sos.state.oh.us

OHIO TREASURER OF STATE

The Honorable Kevin Boyce
30 E. Broad Street, 9th Floor
Grove City, OH 43215
614-466-2160
www.ohiotreasurer.org

OHIO SUPREME COURT

65 S. Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215-3431
614-387-9000
www.sconet.state.oh.us

Chief Justice

The Honorable Thomas Moyer

Justices

The Honorable Robert Cupp
The Honorable Judith Lanzinger
The Honorable Evelyn Lundberg Stratton
The Honorable Maureen O'Connor
The Honorable Terrence O'Donnell
The Honorable Paul Pfeifer

U. S. SENATE

Senators

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
455 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-2315
www.brown.senate.gov

The Honorable George Voinovich
524 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-3353
www.voinovich.senate.gov

U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Representatives

The Honorable Steve Austria
1641 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515
202-225-4324
<http://austria.house.gov/>

Minority Leader

The Honorable John Boehner
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515
202-225-6205
www.johnboehner.house.gov

The Honorable Jim Jordan
515 Cannon House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515
202-225-2676
<http://jordan.house.gov/>

The Honorable Michael Turner
1740 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515
202-225-6465
<http://turner.house.gov/>

OHIO SENATE

Ohio Statehouse, Senate Office Building
Columbus, OH 43215

Senators

The Honorable Gary Cates
614-466-8072
SD04@mailr.sen.state.oh.us

The Honorable Keith Faber
614-466-7662
SD12@mailr.sen.state.oh.us

The Honorable Jon Husted
614-466-4538
SD06@senate.state.oh.us

The Honorable Tom Roberts
614-466-6247
troberts@maild.sen.state.oh.us

The Honorable Robert Schuler
614-466-9737
sd07@mailr.sen.state.oh.us

The Honorable Chris Widener
614-466-3780
SD10@mailr.sen.state.oh.us

OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Vern Riffe Center, 77 S. High St.
Columbus, OH 43215

Representatives

The Honorable John Adams
614-466-1507
district78@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Richard Adams
614-466-8114
district79@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Terry Blair
614-466-6504
district38@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Bill Coley
614-466-8550
district55@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Courtney Combs
614-644-6721
district54@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Timothy Derickson
614-644-5094
district53@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Robert Hackett
614- 466-1470
district84@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Shannon Jones
614-644-6027
district67@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Peggy Lehner
614- 644-6008
district37@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Clayton Luckie
614-466-1607
district39@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Ronald Maag
614- 644-6023
district35@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Jarrod Martin
614- 644-6020
district70@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Ross McGregor
614-466-2038
district72@ohr.state.oh.us

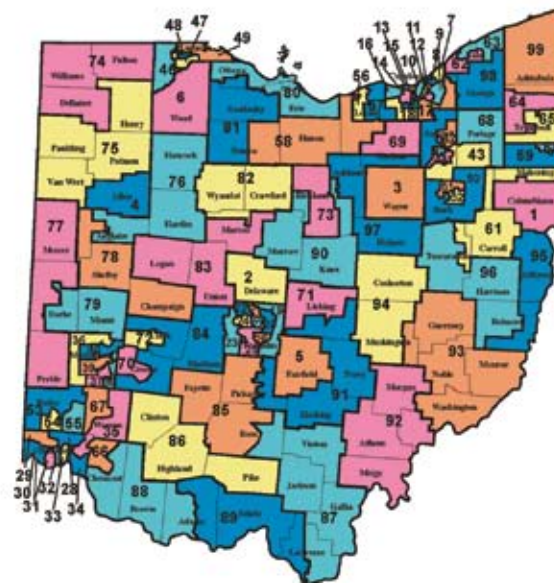
The Honorable Seth Morgan
614- 644-8051
district36@ohr.state.oh.us

The Honorable Roland Winburn
614 466-2960
district40@ohr.state.oh.us

Ohio Senate Legislative Districts



Ohio House Legislative Districts



United States Congressional Districts



Chris Kershner
Vice President, Public Policy &
Economic Development
937.226.8289
cek@dacc.org

Stephanie Precht
Manager, Public Policy
937.226.8277
sprecht@dacc.org

DAYTON
Dayton Area
Chamber of Commerce

1 Chamber Plaza
Fifth & Main Streets
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2400
daytonchamber.org
p. 937.226.1444
f. 937.226.8254