2024 Legislative Agenda

As the lead economic development agency for Memphis and the surrounding counties, the Greater Memphis Chamber focuses its efforts on providing economic growth for all—from breaking barriers to business growth today to creating long-term strategies for Memphis' future.

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With Shelby County representing the largest civilian workforce in Tennessee, the Greater Memphis Chamber continues to work on efforts to upskill citizens for the in-demand jobs of now and the future recognizing fully that our people are our greatest asset.

In this connection, the Greater Memphis Chamber, our Chairman's Circle, and stakeholders are working with our critical partners in the development of the Memphis One Stop Jobs Center which will house training programs and wraparound services under one roof. Our strategic focus on industry credentials will be strengthened with short-term training opportunities in logistics, manufacturing, construction, and technology curriculums that have been developed for and with industry experts.

Greater.

To support the Memphis Accelerated Training Center (working title), the Greater Memphis Chamber seeks to secure the following legislation:



Expand Wilder-Naifeh Technical Skills Grants beyond exclusive use at TCATs to Community Colleges and other Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) approved programs.



Develop a new framework for adult education funding and accountability in Tennessee. With the support of Governor Lee and the TN General Assembly, this new framework will support programs like the Goodwill Excel Center to scale across the state in order to meet the education and workforce needs of the over 600,000 adults in the state without a high school diploma.

In addition to these priorities, the Greater Memphis Chamber will aggressively support the legislative efforts of our partners and investors in these areas:

Add capacity (lanes) across the Mississippi River at Memphis in support of Memphis' key and undeniable role in the international supply chain. The Chamber supports any efforts from TDOT to secure state, federal, or grant funds to advance bridge restoration, rebuild or replacement across the Mississippi River.



Support common sense state policies that support law enforcement and address root causes of crime. The Chamber will continue to push for resources and recommendations that help to make Memphis safer.



Address policy, process, and regulatory issues that complicate efforts to expand affordable childcare. The Chamber is in alignment with other chambers of commerce from across the state and early childcare advocacy organization in advancing key findings from the Governor's Childcare Taskforce.



100 Peabody Place, Suite 1000 · Memphis, TN 38103 Phone: 901.543.3500 · **MemphisChamber.com**