

BARTLESVILLE REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Legislative Agenda for 2011

FEDERAL ISSUES

Water Supply

Strongly support a united effort among all Bartlesville regional water customers to secure the proposed federal cost share adjustment for additional water storage on Lakes Hulah and Copan which will provide long-term water security, allow for robust and sustainable growth and encourage and accelerate economic development.

Environment

Strongly oppose EPA actions to unilaterally expand the scope of the Clean Air Act to regulate “greenhouse gases” in our buildings, warehouses, health care facilities, hotels, food service facilities, churches and farms.

Energy

Strongly support Oklahoma’s oil and gas industry, including protection of incentives for exploration and production and unequivocal opposition to all attempts by Congress or the Executive branch to impose cap and tax regulations. Support all efforts to roll back regulations which hamper the ability to explore, produce and market oil and gas resources to meet the energy needs of Oklahoma and the nation.

Transportation

Support action to ensure funding for completion of critical improvements to U.S. Highway 60 east and west of Bartlesville.

STATE ISSUES

Transportation

Support continued improvements to U.S. Highway 60 east and west of Bartlesville, particularly those included in the ODOT 2011-2018 Construction Work Plan.

Education

Support removing restrictions on a school district’s ability to terminate bad or low-performing employees by removing the right to a trial de novo, and allow for accountable, at-will employment in Oklahoma school.

Taxation

Support continued reduction of the personal income tax rate.

Support the work of the task force established under SJR 61 to permanently resolve the intangible personal property tax issue.

continued on next page



Taxation continued from previous page

Support any and all studies, audits and or reforms of the Oklahoma Tax Commission which improve the commission’s performance in the timely and thorough collection and disbursement of municipal and county sales taxes, including proposed amendments to municipal sales and use tax agreements with the tax commission.

Workers compensation reform

Support further significant workers compensation reform.

Labor

Support reforms of labor laws to create a more direct relationship between individual public employees and management in order to improve flexibility, increase productivity, reward individual merit and make the delivery of services more efficient and cost effective to taxpayer employers.

Government regulation

Support an immediate moratorium on any new state regulations and/or fees, which directly or indirectly increase the cost of doing business or delivering local government services. This moratorium shall be of a duration that allows for thorough study of ways to bring down the cost of and “right size” state government before passing any of additional costs along to businesses and municipalities.

LOCAL ISSUES

Private Property Rights

Support and defend the fundamental right of owners of private property to use, improve and prosper from the sale or development of their property with limited interference from local government.

Economic Development

Support reform of city regulations, which unduly inhibit the ability of local employers to expand and grow jobs, by improving or expanding existing facilities or relocating to build a new facility.

ENDORSEMENT OF REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- 2011 “An Agenda for Jobs” – State Chamber, Tulsa Metro Chamber & Greater Oklahoma City Chamber
- 2011 “One Voice” Tulsa Regional Legislative Agenda

*Recommended by the Public Policy Committee
Considered and Adopted by the Bartlesville Regional Chamber Board of Directors
January 25, 2011*