Legislative Agenda

2024 Governing Principles

- We are opposed to any state income tax. The absence of a state income tax gives South Dakota an advantage in business attraction, expansion, and retention.

- We are opposed to property tax legislation that disproportionately shifts the burden to commercial property.

- We support tax policy and incentives that allow South Dakota to remain competitive in encouraging ongoing capital investment and job creation.

- We support legislation that will enhance video lottery and allow South Dakota video lottery establishments to compete more effectively with gaming in neighboring states.

- We support appropriate funding for K-12 and higher education, including technical institutes.

- We support the personal property rights of South Dakota employers.

- We support the right of employers to make their own operational decisions rather than being forced to follow federal and state mandates.

Dakota Valley Business Council | PO Box 697 | North Sioux City, South Dakota

2024 Legislative Priorities

Workforce Development
We support initiatives that will provide the South Dakota workforce (both existing and future) with the skill sets required by the companies that will provide South Dakota a strong economic base. We also support the continuation of public/private partnerships in an effort to actively recruit and/or train a skilled workforce to the area.

Child Care
We support policies to increase access to quality and affordable child care assistance and allow more employees to enter the workforce. We further support policies and programs that incentivize businesses, communities, and non-profits to develop solutions that address child care accessibility and staffing shortage, and increase affordability.

Education
With the growing demand for a skilled workforce, we support the promotion of workforce training initiatives and the technical trades as early as middle school and throughout high school. Since high school graduates are increasingly becoming an immediate source of the skilled workforce, we urge the legislature to provide the necessary K-12 funding according to the state formula, mindful that the state needs to provide a competitive wage to attract and retain the best and brightest teachers. We continue to encourage private-sector internships in the education and job training process. We also support competitive high-quality education in South Dakota and local control of school districts.

Workforce Housing
In order to attract skilled workers to South Dakota and support job growth, we encourage the State to continue to participate in the development of affordable workforce housing, both single-family homes and multi-family homes. Without local and state financial support, projects like these are less attractive investments for developers to undertake. In addition, we support continued enhanced investment in South Dakota's infrastructure.

Economic Development
We support the ongoing implementation and funding of the economic development funds including: the Future Fund, REDI Fund, Build Dakota Scholarship Fund, Economic Development Partnership Program, the Reinvestment Payment Program, South Dakota Jobs Grant Program, Tax Increment Financing, and the Local Infrastructure Improvement Program.

Transportation and Infrastructure
Transportation systems and other infrastructure (water and sewer) are significant components of economic development. Therefore, maintaining and improving the state's infrastructure is critical and providing sufficient funding should be a priority. Transportation needs continue to exceed available funding. In addition, the State needs to participate in the transportation needs of counties, townships and municipalities.

Unemployment Insurance
It is critical to have a solvent unemployment insurance fund in the state, while maintaining the most stringent guidelines allowable by State and Federal law.

Healthcare
We support expanded access to healthcare insurance in the state of South Dakota.

Mental Health
We support equitable access to mental health care services to all South Dakotans.