

## 2019 Public Policy Agenda and Legislative Priorities

---

The Coppell Chamber of Commerce serves over 400 members who we represent as a voice for business in the Coppell, Texas area. The 2019 Public Policy Agenda and Legislative Priorities serves as a public policy guide to inform our members, our elected officials, and the community at large the position of the Coppell Chamber of Commerce on issues that impact businesses in Coppell and North Texas.

### **Coppell Chamber of Commerce Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Coppell Chamber of Commerce is to promote and develop extraordinary business support and growth through advocacy, alliances, economic development partnership, and education while maintaining a hometown feel.

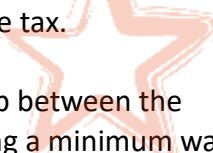
---

### **The Coppell Chamber of Commerce Business Priorities**


We advocate for fair Business Regulation and Taxation, Economic Development, Local Control, Education, Health Care and Infrastructure.

The Coppell Chamber of Commerce positions regarding:

#### **Business Regulation and Taxation**

- Supports legislation that seeks to reduce and eliminate the business franchise tax.
  - Opposes legislation that would set property tax caps.
  - Opposes any attempts by government to regulate any part of the relationship between the employer and its employees including mandating employer benefits or setting a minimum wage.
- 

#### **Economic Development**

- Supports Economic Development Programs that continue support for state and local tools used to compete for corporate expansions, relocations and job growth, such as the Texas Enterprise Fund, the Texas Enterprise Zone Fund and the tax incentives available under the Texas Economic Development Act.
  - Supports legislation that supports flexibility in the use of tax abatements, tax increment financing, reinvestment zones and other incentives to promote economic development and job creation.
- 

## Local Control

- Opposes property tax increases, oppose any measure that would limit, reduce or remove the local control that School Districts and Cities have today regarding their ability to govern, finance, or otherwise make decisions on behalf of the businesses and community they serve. However, we recognize that what works for one municipality and school district does not necessarily work in another. Locally-elected mayors, city councils and school board trustees are best suited to make decisions on behalf of their respective communities.
- Opposes any proposed change in the sourcing of sales tax remittance from the current origin of sale method to any method that would include destination as the manner-in-which sales tax remittance is calculated. Changes to Sales Tax Sourcing will affect the efficiency of a city to provide the necessary public safety services that are important to business.

## Education

- Opposes any form of vouchers, taxpayer-savings grants, tax credits or additional programs that circumvent public accountability and transparency requirements as required by the state legislature to public school districts and divert valuable resources from public schools.
- Believes the State's public education funding system is inadequate.
- Supports reform of public-school finance and repeal of the current "Robin Hood" system.

## Health Care

- Opposes any measure that increases healthcare costs for Texas employers and their employees and families. The high cost of health care services and health insurance is a primary contributor to the number of uninsured and to the rising percentage of budgets that households, businesses and government spend on health care.
- Supports measures that would increase the efficiency, efficacy, and cost-effectiveness of health care services and health insurance.

## Infrastructure

- Supports innovative financing tools that would leverage state funds to expedite delivery of needed infrastructure projects and maintenance.
- Supports a non-taxpayer funded high speed rail "Bullet Train".
- Supports the Dallas Area Rapid Transit's Cotton Belt Rail development.

Approved and Adopted by the Coppel Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors on January 16, 2019

