



EVCCA
EAST VALLEY CHAMBERS
OF COMMERCE ALLIANCE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

BUSINESS PRIORITIES 2025 Legislative Agenda

The Voice of East Valley Business

Representing more than 5,000 member firms with a collected voice at the State and Federal levels since 1999

www.evcca.org

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

EVCCA 2025 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Economic Development:

The EVCCA supports a range of policies aimed at enhancing Arizona's economic competitiveness:

- **Workforce Housing:** Encouraging policies that promote workforce housing while protecting private property rights and local governance.
- **Incentives for Business Growth:** Supporting the continuation of the Arizona Commerce Authority and incentives for attracting and retaining businesses, especially in high-growth industries like electric vehicles, advanced manufacturing, and semiconductors.
- **Trade and Global Competitiveness:** Promoting fair trade agreements and programs like the EX-IM Bank to help U.S. businesses compete globally.
- **Defense and Aerospace:** Encouraging support for the defense and aerospace sectors, including a sustainable defense budget that avoids sequestration.

Education & Workforce Development (K-12 & Post-Secondary):

EVCCA places a strong emphasis on building a skilled workforce to meet the growing demands of the East Valley economy:

- **K-12 Education:** Advocating for stable and equitable funding for all educational institutions, including public, private, and charter schools. Emphasizing career and technical education (CTE) to prepare students for workforce readiness.
- **Workforce Training:** Supporting job training initiatives, certifications, and micro-credentials to ensure workers remain competitive in a rapidly evolving job market.
- **Higher Education:** Backing stable funding for universities and community colleges to maintain world-class research and workforce preparation capabilities, while supporting job training programs aligned with Arizona's business needs.

Employer Policies & Tort Reform:

EVCCA prioritizes policies that foster a positive business environment and reduce unnecessary legal burdens on employers:

- **Right-to-Work & Employment-at-Will:** Protecting Arizona's right-to-work status and opposing interference in workplace policies.
- **Legal Reform:** Supporting reforms to reduce nuisance lawsuits and opposing changes that increase employer costs, such as mandatory benefit programs for small businesses or changes to workers' compensation laws.
- **Workforce Flexibility:** Advocating for policies that support, but do not mandate, mentoring and apprenticeship opportunities.

Energy, Environment, and Land Management:

Energy reliability and land management remain critical for Arizona's long-term growth:

- **Energy Infrastructure:** Supporting the development of infrastructure to ensure safe, affordable, and reliable energy, including balanced energy portfolios and investment in alternative energy technologies like battery storage.
- **Water Management:** Promoting sustainable water policies, such as the modification of Bartlett Dam, to secure water resources for the future, and ensuring that water infrastructure investments are transparent and effectively managed.
- **Environmental Conservation:** Backing forest management initiatives that protect watersheds and prevent wildfires, while encouraging responsible air and water quality policies that support businesses without exceeding federal mandates.

Healthcare:

The EVCCA advocates for policies that ensure access to quality healthcare and support Arizona's healthcare industry:

- **Provider Shortages:** Addressing the provider shortage through the expansion of graduate medical education programs and nursing workforce initiatives.
- **Healthcare Cost Control:** Encouraging innovative solutions like telemedicine, plan portability, and cross-state insurance purchasing to reduce healthcare costs for businesses and individuals.

Immigration:

The Alliance supports immigration policies that protect businesses and ensure a reliable workforce:

- **Guest Worker Programs:** Promoting a reliable system for verifying work eligibility and supporting guest worker programs that address workforce demands.
- **Border Security:** Backing strong border security measures to ensure the safety and efficiency of immigration processes while addressing undocumented immigrants already in the U.S. through structured visa programs.

Taxes & Government Processes:

EVCCA advocates for clear and fair tax policies that support business growth:

- **Tax Reforms:** Supporting responsible tax reforms, including raising the business personal property tax exemption and enhancing research and development tax credits to foster innovation.
- **Government Efficiency:** Promoting reforms that modernize government processes, such as the Department of Revenue's systems and reducing the burden of unnecessary ballot measures and regulatory fees.

Transportation:

Improving Arizona's transportation infrastructure is critical to economic growth:

- **Multimodal Transportation Systems:** Supporting the development of transportation systems that connect people and goods across the state, with funding prioritized for key projects like the widening of I-10 and completion of regional corridors.
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Encouraging the use of innovative partnerships to foster job creation and improve transportation infrastructure.

Conclusion:

The EVCCA's 2025 Legislative Priorities reflect a commitment to fostering a business-friendly environment in Arizona. By advocating for policies that promote economic development, workforce training, healthcare access, and streamlined government processes, the EVCCA seeks to ensure that the East Valley remains a competitive hub for businesses and innovation.

To view a comprehensive copy of the EVCCA 2025 Legislative agenda, visit www.evcca.org or scan the QR code provided:



WHO WE ARE

Established in 1999, the East Valley Chambers of Commerce Alliance (EVCCA) advocates as a united voice at the State and Federal levels. The EVCCA unifies more than 5,000 member firms across the region.

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