

2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



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HILTON HEAD ISLAND-BLUFFTON
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



FEDERAL

- **Pandemic Relief:** *To continue advocacy efforts for swift action on COVID-19 relief and recovery in the following areas:*

- Economic stimulus for small businesses, nonprofits and 501(c)(6) organizations.
- Advocate for protections on those businesses that received COVID-19 grants and stimulus and face unexpected tax liabilities.
- Support continuing federally reimbursed pandemic unemployment compensation.
- Urge bi-partisan support of targeted legislation providing for tax credits and incentives for those activities supporting group and business travel, meetings and conventions, business entertainment and meals, and individual/family travel expenditures through 2021.

- **Infrastructure Modernization**

- Support the solvency of the Highway Trust Fund

- **Parris Island Commitment**

- Join regional and state partners to support sustaining the training activities and jobs at Parris Island.

- **Immigration/Labor**

- Support the expansion and enhancement of job-related visa programs that supply a seasonal workforce for local businesses, as well as reform the application process to eliminate the cumbersome and intrusive requirements for businesses.



STATE

- Support renewing efforts on a comprehensive education reform bill to include increasing teacher pay, intervention for failing schools and reviewing testing metrics and procedures.
- Advocate for the passage of a liability protection bill that protects businesses and organizations that plan, prepare, promote and prioritize the health and well-being of their employees and customers from COVID-19.
- Support grants/forgivable loans to small business and nonprofits to fund sustainable business practices, retain employees and purchase essential PPE for safe operations.
- Support for new and existing state investments for our state's vital travel and tourism industry.



LOCAL

- Oppose Police Tax on Hilton Head Island Businesses and Residents in its current form.
- Support regional activity and efforts, as well as policy measures, to develop affordable housing for the local workforce.
- Collaborate with and support air service development at local airports.
- Monitor and contribute dialogue toward the U.S. Hwy. 278 Corridor Improvement/Bridge Project as it pertains to historic/cultural preservation, design and aesthetics, and overall function.
- To encourage utilization of regional Opportunity Zones to attract business investment, jobs and workforce housing.