

2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

CHILDCARE & EARLY LEARNING

Advocate for policies and programs that expand access to affordable, high-quality childcare and early learning opportunities from birth to age 5, empowering families, supporting working parents, and laying a strong foundation for lifelong achievement and community prosperity.

CIVIC DIALOGUE & COLLABORATION

Encourage the establishment of constructive community conversations hosted by the Chamber where diverse viewpoints can be shared openly and respectfully, fostering common ground and cooperative approaches to local and legislative challenges.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Champion initiatives that preserve and promote the Gullah-Geechee culture, strengthen heritage-based tourism, and sustain the economic vitality of historically significant neighborhoods and small businesses.

ENVIRONMENT & RESILIENCE

Advance responsible business practices that safeguard natural resources, promote coastal resilience, and strengthen recycling and sustainability efforts to protect our region for future generations.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Advocate for targeted investments in broadband access, water and sewer expansion, stormwater management, and resilient infrastructure that supports both economic growth and environmental health.

SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCACY

Champion fair and predictable tax and regulatory policies—including personal property tax relief and meaningful tort reform—that empower small businesses to innovate, expand, and create local jobs in a competitive marketplace.

TRANSPORTATION MODERNIZATION

Support legislation that strengthens transportation planning and funding to better integrate airport, public transit, bicycle, pedestrian, and ferry systems—aligning South Carolina’s investment levels with peer states to ensure safe, efficient, and accessible mobility that supports economic growth and community connectivity.

US 278 BRIDGE & CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

Support the construction of the new US-278 bridge and corridor improvements that enhance safety, reduce congestion, and improve mobility for pedestrians, residents, workforce, and visitors—while protecting the Island’s natural environment and preserving its distinctive Lowcountry character.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Promote programs that connect education to employment through internships, apprenticeships, the military community, encore opportunities, and pathways for individuals of all abilities.

WORKFORCE HOUSING

Facilitate innovative public-private partnerships to increase the supply of attainable housing that meets the needs of the region’s workforce and sustains economic competitiveness.