



Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA



PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES



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INTRODUCTION

The Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Public Policy Agenda is a strategic plan outlining its priorities for 2025–26.

Importance:

- Sets the tone for our business priorities
- Addresses pressing issues important to members
- Guidance for a unified advocacy voice
- Adds accountability measures and actions

OVERARCHING GOALS



- Prioritize legislation and public policy initiatives important to the Greater Dallas community, specifically the Dallas Hispanic business community, that retain, recruit and develop businesses.
- Work together in a bipartisan fashion to craft legislation and public policy at the local, state and federal levels of government that ensures tax base growth, workforce participation and economic prosperity.
- Identify and provide an infrastructure for advocacy opportunities for GDHCC membership so that their voice is heard in important legislative and public policy matters.
- Advance the mission of GDHCC during the 2025-26 deliberations of public bodies.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Priorities



The GDHCC supports initiatives that stimulate job and tax base growth, fosters entrepreneurship, enhances competitiveness, and affordable and workforce housing subsidy programs.

Proposed Measures that we would support:

Tax incentives for small businesses, infrastructure investment projects, making the energy grid more reliable, addressing the rising costs of property insurance. Algorithmic discrimination protections when using AI when automated business systems contribute to disfavoring people based on race, color, or ethnicity.

Proposed Measures that we would oppose:

The elimination of all property taxes, efforts to blatantly erode local control, legislation that would damage Texas' reputation as a business-friendly state.

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER POLICIES

Priorities



Stop further expansion or revisions of Senate Bill 4 from last session which allows Texas police to arrest people for illegally crossing the Mexico Border.

Promote fair and equitable processes regarding employer hiring practices, as it relates to their documented status.

Proposed Measures that we would support:

State supported and fiscally sound measures that promote humane comprehensive immigration reform.

Proposed Measures that we would oppose:

State funds for a border wall and inhumane barriers, more militarization of the border, additional E-Verify measures, and ostracizing Mexico and other Latin American countries within legislation.



PUBLIC EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE

Priorities

The GDHCC supports fully funding public education. Significant and sustained investment in public schools and institutions of higher education must occur to advance student achievement and prepare Texas' future workforce. GDHCC supports limited voucher programs that give priority to low-income students.

Proposed Measures that we would support:

Increased funding for schools in low-income areas, increasing teacher pay, expansion of early childhood education programs, support for career and technical education (CTE) initiatives.

Proposed Measures that we would oppose:

Heavy school choice initiatives that have the potential to erode public education, further deteriorating diversity and inclusion measures in our schools, weakening tenure at certain public institutions of higher education.

RACIAL AND SOCIAL EQUITY IN BUSINESS

Priorities



The GDHCC supports initiatives and policies that aid in overcoming racism and social inequities, including access to employment opportunities, healthcare, education, and affordable housing. This includes the meaningful and sustainable inclusion of businesses of color in State of Texas' contracting and other procurement opportunities found within legislatively created entities.

Proposed Measures that we would support:

Legislators and policy makers should identify ways to expand access to employment and business opportunities, reduce inequities in housing, health care, education and housing and protect the civil rights of all Texans.

Proposed Measures that we would oppose:

GDHCC opposes discrimination in all forms and encourages Legislators and policy makers to publicly reject racism and bigotry and address systemic inequities in Texas. The GDHCC will strenuously oppose legislation and/or policies that will negatively impact MWBE contract and procurement opportunities which, thereby, will negatively impact job creation/retention and tax base growth.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

Priorities

Modernizing transportation systems including High Speed Rail, upgrading energy infrastructure, implementation of a statewide broadband access plan, plans that further water security.

Proposed Measures that we would support:

Infrastructure investment plan to repair roads and bridges within the Greater Dallas area, funding for clean energy projects, broadband expansion subsidies for urban and historically underserved communities.

Proposed Measures that we would oppose:

Legislation that releases DART member cities from their obligations.





GDHCC PPWG ACCOUNTABILITY ACTIONS

PPWG will track progress: Regular reporting on legislative and public policy achievements, milestones and challenges faced on items aligned with GDHCC priorities outlined within this agenda.

PPWG will evaluate and hold legislators accountable: Assess the impact of enacted legislation and public policy on key metrics such as employment rates, infrastructure quality and business impact.

PPWG will provide transparency: Members will be provided access to information on legislative and public policy processes, calls for mobilization and testimony, and decision-making, and expenditure of public funds.

SPECIFIC GDHCC PUBLIC POLICY DETERMINATION



Our Approach:

If a particular entity seeks the GDHCC endorsement or needs our opposition to a specific bill/ordinance, the following process must occur:

1. For an endorsement, the bill must align with the general guidelines establish within the agenda. For bill opposition, the bill would detract from the priorities. The GDHCC President/CEO can indicate support or opposition based on alignment with the GDHCC public policy guidelines.

2. Unaligned legislation or public policy will be reviewed by the Public Policy Work Group for their endorsement or opposition recommendation by a simple majority vote of voting members.

3. The President/CEO of the GDHCC will take their recommendation into consideration to make a final determination. Best efforts will be made to make determinations within 72 hours of the bill/ordinance being presented to the GDHCC.





Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

THANK YOU

Public Policy Work Group

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