

LGBAC Good Government Policy Statement

Adopted by the Chamber Board of Directors, March 16, 2009

Philosophy

Government must allow the private sector to flourish and limit the regulatory burden on business. As the guardian of the public tax dollars, it is the responsibility of government to use revenues wisely and grow only as needed to serve its citizens. Working in partnership, the public and private sectors make Greeley an outstanding place to live and work.

Policies

The Chamber supports equitable and understandable regulations: A reasonable volume of taxes, clear laws and regulations that are equitably enforced and sensitive to the realities of a market-driven economy.

The Chamber advocates fiscal responsibility: An accurate assessment of the cost/benefit analysis of any imposed ordinance or proposed service.

The Chamber supports the accessibility of government officials and staff. Our members expect elected officials and staff to be responsive to concerns and cooperative on matters of mutual benefit. Accurate and timely information about issues and decisions that affect our families and our businesses is vital. Open meetings and records are essential to the transparency required for good government.

The Chamber requests representation: An opportunity to participate in the government process and reasonable representation on government boards and commissions.

The Chamber supports public/private partnerships: Government is responsible for accomplishing many functions but does not have to do them directly. Government should develop a method to establish a competitive process to seek private partners for contract work.

The Chamber advises government to be mindful of the competitive nature of the private sector. When governments regulate, they should keep a close eye on issues of competitiveness locally, regionally, state-to-state and globally.

The Chamber supports private property rights: The right to own, use and sell property is guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. Eminent domain should be

used only as a last resort for public infrastructure and owners must be compensated at a fair market value for their property.

The Chamber opposes employer mandates: Government mandates on employers should be avoided.

The Chamber supports the role of government as the conservator of our community's quality of life and a healthy business climate: Both quality of life and a positive business climate are vital in order for business to thrive. Government plays a role in both and needs to keep them in relative balance.

The Chamber expects businesses to be consulted on matters of interest: Government should seek input from the businesses community to assist in decision making on business related issues.

The Greeley Chamber supports realistic financial forecasts and conservative budgeting. When expenditures exceed projected revenue, expenses should be reduced in a manner that allows government to deliver basic services as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Action Items

The Chamber will review ballot initiatives requesting additional taxes and evaluate the initiative based on use.

The Chamber supports Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance's positions on proposed state, regional and federal business legislation or regulations.

The Chamber will communicate with individual government officials to identify areas of concern and develop partnerships.

The Chamber's Local Government Business Affairs Committee (LGBAC) will monitor local government legislation and policy as they pertain to Chamber priorities and recommend positions when appropriate to the Chamber's Board of Directors.