



Greater Vail Area Chamber of Commerce
Marana Chamber of Commerce
Northern Pima County Chamber of Commerce
So. Arizona Green Chamber of Commerce
Tucson GLBT Chamber of Commerce
Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
Tucson-So. Arizona Black Chamber of Commerce

STATEMENTS OF PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The long-term viability of the Southern Arizona region is dependent upon the successful development of new and existing business and industry. A competitive and robust business climate is necessary to produce and sustain economic development. At the policy level, governments must encourage and foster a climate of growth and development for local business. At the day-to-day level, government must find ways to make doing business in our region easier and less complex. Government should not be an impediment to the legal pursuit of new and existing business and should complete its regulatory and permitting functions in the most expeditious ways feasible.

INITIATIVE REFORM

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The initiative process was included in the Arizona Constitution as a way for ordinary citizens to have a say in their governments. Today, initiatives are more likely to be funded by deep-pocketed organizations and individuals, many from out-of-state. In addition,



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there are currently no requirements within the process to ensure that initiatives create policies that are fiscally sound. Voter approved initiatives cannot be changed by the governing body and as a result many unintended consequences have gone uncorrected because they are voter protected. City, County and State governments must take steps to make the initiative process more local, less subject to out-of-state influence and more subject to executive review.

TORT REFORM

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

SACCA will advocate for public policy proposals that discourage all frivolous litigation in Arizona. Tort reform must continue to be addressed.

TAXATION/BUDGET

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

SACCA supports fair tax and fiscal policies that will attract job growth and bring economic success to Southern Arizona. We will advocate on behalf of finding equitable revenues for essential services while allowing our region's business community to be successful and competitive.



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EDUCATION, LABOR, WORKFORCE

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SACCA supports world-class standards of excellence in Arizona's education system by accurately and fairly measuring results using such metrics as drop-out rates, quality of instruction and adult literacy. SACCA will advocate for appropriate funding necessary to improve our education system from levels K-16, including our vocational training, community college and university systems. Arizona's education system needs to cultivate a work force with the skills and knowledge that emerging and expanding businesses need.

Our region is fortunate to have multiple campuses of higher learning, including the University of Arizona and others. Every effort must be made to protect investment and expand the scope and ability of these institutions to create a well-prepared work force.

IMMIGRATION

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

SACCA seeks a resolution of the border issues and problems affecting Southern Arizona and our neighbors to the south via federal avenues in order to assure the safety and well being of all residents and to protect the economic base of the region.



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SACCA supports a workable guest worker program because it is necessary to match our immigration system to our region's economic needs. It is imperative that the U.S. Congress take necessary action to deal with immigration reform without further delay. Without immigration reform, our region's ability to fill future jobs is in serious jeopardy.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

SACCA supports the concept that government entities should prepare economic impact assessments prior to enacting environmental regulations and ordinances imposed on the private sector.

Water is a precious resource that must not be wasted or lost, and SACCA will continue to stress the need for water conservation as well as the need to participate in and encourage discussion of water use policies that use our existing water resources wisely and efficiently.

SACCA encourages state, county and local governments to seek new water resources and supports legislation enabling communities to promote and incent water conservation. SACCA supports the development and deployment of clean sources of energy and energy conservation..

SACCA believes efforts should be made by governmental entities to streamline the environmental permitting process.



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HEALTHCARE

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Healthcare insurance is one of the most valued employee benefits and has become the most costly to provide, for any employer, large or small. SACCA believes that businesses should continue to be able to participate in the provisioning of healthcare insurance to their employees and their families. Thus, affordable and comprehensive insurance options are critical to achieving this goal.

SACCA will provide its members with up to date and accurate information regarding the many changes to our healthcare system as they are proposed, enacted, and implemented by governments or by government regulations at all levels.

In addition, SACCA will seek rule changes at the state and local levels to reduce costs by expanding the risk pool for health insurance through association participation.