

2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

ECONOMIC STABILITY & FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Washington's budget realities highlight the importance of balanced spending, sustainable revenues, and disciplined fiscal management. The Chamber supports:

- Prioritizing balanced spending, sustainable revenues, and disciplined fiscal management.
- Safeguarding state reserves, prevent diversion of local funds
- Restricting new program spending until obligations are covered
- Reducing or limiting employment-related costs (workers' comp, unemployment, paid leave, minimum wage)
- Regulatory clarity and responsiveness for small businesses

LIVABLE COMMUNITIES: WORKFORCE, HOUSING, AND QUALITY OF LIFE

An educated, well trained, and skilled workforce, plus affordable workforce housing are of vital importance to the business community. The Chamber supports legislative priorities to:

- Strengthen workforce development (education, training, partnerships)
- Firmly address the shortage of affordable workforce housing
- Invest in housing infrastructure, develop flexible zoning policies, and streamline regulations
- Promote state & federal reforms for entry/mid-level housing
- Fund vital transportation networks for growth and livability

ENHANCING REGIONAL COMPETITIVENESS

The Chamber advocates for strategic investments that enhance the region's competitiveness. The Chamber supports:

- Investment in tourism promotion, recreation infrastructure, and cultural assets
- Ensuring effective forest & public land management practices (wildfire, access, sustainability)
- Forming vigorous public-private-nonprofit collaborations
- Pursuing reforms & resource investments for long-term resilience and sustainability