



2019 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

1. Enhance Workforce Development

- Support our education partners in securing balanced funding for short-term workforce training programs, the benefits of which would include the facilitation of additional work-based learning opportunities in manufacturing, distribution, administration, healthcare and other industries, specifically apprenticeships and internships.
- Support the expansion of the Career Coach Program through the State to assist High School students with determining career goals and available pathways.

2. Improve Infrastructure and Product Development

- Seek the creation of a state-supported funding program for the development of speculative buildings and the acquisition and development of land in the state;
- Seek modification of state regulations to enhance funding of water and wastewater extensions for all counties in order to increase available, marketable product for new or existing companies;
- Modify guidelines for IDF-Utility Account grants to include eligibility for projects in rural or less developed census tracts of Tier 3 counties;
- Support solutions that increase access to broadband Internet access by all communities, companies and citizens in North Carolina.

3. Sharpen North Carolina's Competitiveness

- Improve the competitive position of North Carolina's border counties through flexible incentives that align with those offered by neighboring states.
- Seek ways to mitigate the corporate income tax impact of the new Federal tax bill on incentive grants
- Seek ways to include the abatement of NC Franchise Tax, as it can be an impediment on further expansions and capital equipment purchases within the State.
- Seek the increased incentive qualification for projects that are focused more on capital investment than job creation
- Encourage the widespread utilization of the Job Development and Investment Grant (JDIG) program by eliminating the cap and sunset provisions.
- Enhance funding for the Economic Development Partnership of NC and the NC Department of Commerce for purposes of marketing, global business recruitment activities, existing industry support and the establishment of a closing fund for high-impact projects.