For three decades the Chambers of Commerce of Oak Ridge, Blount County and Knoxville have worked together to develop a regional legislative agenda to identify state issues of importance and increase job and business growth in the region.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**
To attract, retain and expand business in our region, we:
- Support local governments’ continued ability to promote economic development and affordable housing through public/private partnerships (TIF, PILOT, and Housing Tax Credits) and encourage the State of Tennessee to promote and support these efforts.
- Support the enhancement of infrastructure and training incentives, and the establishment of technology-driven incentives.

**EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:**
To ensure a high-quality, capable workforce in the future, we:
- Encourage the State of Tennessee to implement a “Work in Tennessee” initiative to attract skilled and educated workers to our State in order to meet the needs of our existing and future employers.
- Support continued implementation in elementary, middle and high schools of the TNReady standards, assessments and their use in evaluating educators’ effectiveness.
- Support an accountability model for Tennessee school systems that includes a measure of quality career and technical education, including industry-recognized certifications, work-based learning, dual enrollment and post-secondary opportunities, to help reach the state’s goal of 55 percent of Tennesseans by 2025 holding post-secondary credentials.
- Support continuation of Tennessee Promise, Tennessee Reconnect and other initiatives that encourage attendance and completion of post-secondary training.
- Oppose any state action that would result in mandating the election of school system superintendents.
- Enhance infrastructure and training incentives and establish technology-driving incentives.

**HEALTH CARE:**
To encourage a healthy workforce while not creating financial burden on employers, we:
- Support health policies, particularly those addressing mental health, substance abuse and addiction, which improve the welfare of the state’s workforce.

**INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION:**
To provide the infrastructure needed for business to succeed, we:
- Support efforts to recruit low-cost air carriers to McGhee Tyson Airport.
- Support the efforts to develop the Oak Ridge Airport as planned by the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority.