

The Metro North Chamber of Commerce (MNCC) is the Premier Voice of Business for the Metro North region. Metro North Chamber of Commerce Represents:

Over 900 businesses | 13 cities | 4 school districts

Largest community college system in state | Over 150,000 votes through our membership

The Business and Government Affairs (BGA) Committee serves as an advocate for business in the Metro North region on national, state, and local levels. Comprised of a group of respected business and community leaders, BGA sets policies for the Chamber on key issues such as: Transportation, Education, Energy, Economic Development, Workforce Development and Health Care.



BGA Contact Information

Troy Whitmore | United Power | Chair of BGA

twhitmore@unitedpower.com | 303.637.1207

Brad Harvey | Horizons North Credit Union | Co-Chair BGA

bradh@hncu.org | 720.872.8600

Steve Caulk | ProConnect Public Relations | Co-Chair BGA

srcaulk@proconnectpr.com | 303.410.4971

Steve Balcerovich | Chamber Lobbyist

stevebalcerovich@aol.com | 720.351.2007

Kathy Oatis | Chamber Lobbyist

kathyoatis@mac.com | 303.808.2710

Shiley Johnson | Director of Policy and Information

shiley@metronorthchamber.com | 720.259.2431

Major Chamber Investors

Trustee Level



Benefactor Level



Foundation Level



Metro North Chamber of Commerce...Your Regional Business Powerhouse!

METRO NORTH CHAMBER LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRANSPORTATION ENERGY REGULATION EDUCATION



2014 Legislative Priorities

14583 Orchard Parkway, Suite 300 - Westminster, CO 80023

P: 303.288.1000 F: 303.227.1050

www.MetroNorthChamber.com

2014 METRO NORTH CHAMBER LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Metro North Chamber of Commerce supports ideas, strategies, and legislation that will stabilize Colorado's business environment, expand economic opportunities, and promote healthy, private-sector growth. As such, the Metro North Chamber of Commerce urges all members in the Colorado Legislature to collaborate on five important policy categories: Economic Development; Transportation and Infrastructure; Colorado's Energy Economy; Stable Regulatory Environment; and Education.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Colorado's business community depends on a strong workers' compensation system. Metro North Chamber of Commerce will continue to resist any radical attempts by the Colorado legislature to reform existing laws, and oppose any attempt to divert money from the workers' compensation fund. The Metro North Chamber of Commerce supports comprehensive economic development policies that spark competition and create opportunities for sustained growth.

Metro North Chamber Recommendations:

1. Resist dramatic attempts to change existing workers' compensation laws and/or raid the workers' compensation fund.
2. Oppose efforts to eliminate the current enterprise zone tax program.
3. Support efforts to reform construction defect statutes, which currently favor complainants.
4. Support the continued use of Urban Renewal Authorities to develop sustainable local economies and generate new revenue opportunities for Colorado.

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Metro North Chamber supports investment in Colorado's infrastructure because it stimulates primary job growth and lays the foundation for economic development. The Metro North Chamber supports ideas and policies that fund the maintenance and improvement of Colorado's infrastructure.

Metro North Chamber Recommendations:

1. Preserve the integrity of the Highway Users Tax Fund (HUTF), with funds dedicated strictly to transportation projects.
2. Support and prioritize transportation projects that relieve highway congestion.
3. Support and encourage innovative ideas that increase funding for transportation and infrastructure projects.
4. Identify and support opportunities to create funding solutions for community water storage and water treatment facilities.

COLORADO ENERGY ECONOMY

Colorado's Energy Economy continues to grow, presenting opportunities to enhance our economic competitiveness and create an energy portfolio from both traditional and non-traditional fuel sources. The Colorado Legislature must be balanced in our energy policy, so that there is a stable regulatory environment that also protects our quality of life.

Metro North Chamber Recommendations:

1. Support statewide efforts in the development of oil & gas, clean coal, wind, solar and other energy types that have made Colorado such a diverse state for energy growth.
2. Support sensible legislation that protects quality of life and maintains stability within the energy industry.
3. Oppose legislation that would guarantee net metering subsidies for roof-top solar customers at the expense of all other ratepayers.
4. Resist new energy mandates that impact oil & gas, rural cooperatives and investor-owned utilities.

STABLE REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

Colorado's regulatory environment must be predictable and stable, so that our businesses have the confidence to operate and invest without fear of unnecessary interference. Too often, a constant evolution of rules and regulations distracts our communities away from their businesses, while the focus instead on compliance.

Metro North Chamber Recommendations:

1. Continue to review existing regulations to identify redundancy, inefficiency, contradiction, and/or obsolescence.
2. Support a process that effectively engages all affected parties for collaboration of any new proposed regulations.
3. Create a regulatory environment that emphasizes educational outreach for first-time, non-compliant violations that do not jeopardize life or safety.
4. Resist any new regulatory legislation without appropriate review of need and cost of compliance.

EDUCATION

With the defeat of Amendment 66, the funding of K-12 education remains a major public policy issue, with ongoing concerns about the lack of funding and affordability of higher education.

Metro North Chamber Recommendations:

1. Support K-12 funding initiatives that compensate all school districts fairly, promote accountability, and treat all taxpayers evenly, without over-taxing business.
2. Seek higher education legislation that uses innovative funding sources without raising taxes on business.
3. Support statewide partnerships that promote business and education cooperation.