



10 Legislative Initiatives Passed in 2009 To Generate Jobs on the Road to Prosperity

Get the Economy Moving

Avoid new costly mandates, fees or taxes on business in returning Tennessee companies to full competitiveness and in creating prosperity for its citizens. Manage the state budget conservatively while fostering economic development and job creation.

- Balanced \$26.9 billion budget with 10.2% cut from previous year; stimulus money used for some recurring expenses gambling on economic turn-around.
- Increased revenues with closing of FONCE tax loophole; higher environmental and regulatory fees, higher UI tax and lowering of gross receipt tax deduction.
- Positively clarified advertising service laws, increased jobs tax credit, provided \$62 billion in “green” job expansion; leveled the playing field for manufacturers’ financing companies.

Put Education First

Prioritize education, fostering a better educated and skilled workforce, and expand charter school options for Tennessee families because prosperity depends on an educated workforce.

- Maintained BEP base and increased funding by \$16 million.
- Maintained \$22 million for Pre-K.
- Expanded number and availability of charter schools.

Enact Legal Reform

Protect Tennessee’s business climate with comprehensive legal reform that includes caps for product liability, punitive and non-economic damages, and medical malpractice. Start legal reform by ensuring that both citizens and companies have fair input into the judicial selection process

- Judicial Selection plan passed, ensuring continuing stability, additional business input and no elections for appellate judges. Nominees vetted and results provided to Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House.

Protect Workers’ Comp for Employees and Employers

Guard Tennessee’s workers’ compensation law by keeping it adaptable to a changing workplace. Define key elements such as recreational/wellness, telecommuting and physician communications. Ensure workers’ comp remains a non-adversarial system, free from fraud, serving the employee and employer in a cost-effective manner.

- Limited reconsideration claims when company is sold and employees retained.
- Ensured treating physician and employer can communicate directly.
- Limited reconsideration when an employee is an illegal alien.
- Overturned Supreme Court ruling making work-related recreational activities compensable.
- Limited mental injury claims to no more than two years after maximum medical improvement.



10 Legislative Initiatives in 2009-10 To Generate Jobs on the Road to Prosperity



Stabilize the Unemployment Insurance Fund

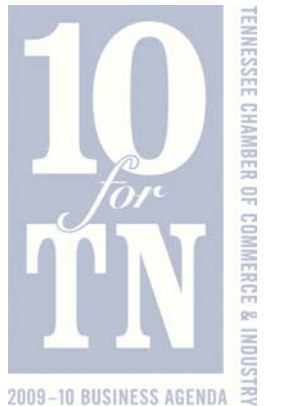
Maintain the integrity and stability of the unemployment insurance fund in the most responsible and cost-effective way, ensuring that it is used only for the current statutorily intended purposes.

- Adjusted rates and used stimulus money to avoid collapse in cost-efficient manner; adjusted tables and triggers to reduce rates as fund reaches stability.
- Clarified key definitions and penalties relating to fraud.

Create Fairness in Campaign Contributions

Allow companies and organizations, who should enjoy the same rights as individual citizens, to contribute and participate in Tennessee's political process using enforced contribution limits, open reporting standards and stiff penalties for non-compliance.

- Bills failed (1) to allow corporate citizens' political donations or (2) to allow corporate donations to not-for-profit political action committees



Safeguard Employee Rights

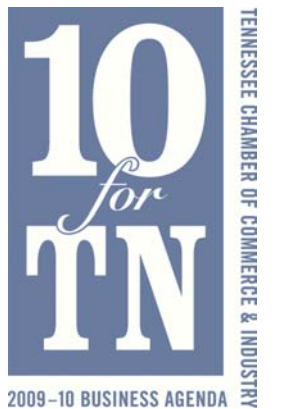
Prevent organized labor from taking away an employee's right to work or the right to a secret ballot. Strengthen Tennessee's right-to-work laws, and prevent public sector union contracts.

- Passed resolution urging defeat of federal Employee Free Choice Act.
- Ensured none of the eight Jobs Killer Bills became law.

Meet our State's Infrastructure Needs

Achieve transportation and infrastructure investments in a fiscally and economically responsible way helping businesses to grow and expand while transporting goods and people in a sustainable, safe and efficient manner.

- Supported use of stimulus money for projects with bonds approved annually for the next 4 years, allowing cancellation if federal money is not available.



Improve Health Care Availability

Increase health care availability and control costs through technology, innovation and transparency.

- Protected against any new health care mandates.
- Fully funded CoverTN program.

Conserve Energy and the Environment

Advance the role of business as leaders in conservation and environmental compliance.

- Revised definition and regulation of streams and waters.
- Enacted key recommendations of Governor's Energy Task Force.
- Held Class II industrial landfills harmless in bills mandating more coal ash regulations.
- Enacted Renewable Fuel Blending Act of 2009.





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- 2010:**
- Ensure Congress addresses transportation infrastructure in a comprehensive manner, including support for expedited consideration of SAFETEA-LU.
- 2010:**
- Prevent cost-adding health care mandates.
 - Support meaningful healthcare reform at the federal level that lowers costs for business while creating a better healthcare system. Monitor federal healthcare proposals, support Washington-based allies and communicate to membership grassroots.
- 2010:**
- Maintain current waste disposal programs to provide appropriate and affordable means to dispose of industrial waste.
 - Protect attempts to place restrictions more stringent than federal on coal mining.
 - Defend 2009 “wet weather conveyance” legislation.
 - Ensure any potential fee proposals are based on appropriate analysis.
 - Participate in and support allies in federal legislation and regulation related to greenhouse gases and climate change.
 - Ensure rule promulgation process considers impacts on industry, jobs, economy and property owners.

