

# Chamber Committees: *Turning Ideas Into Action*

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The Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry takes your membership investment seriously. Many membership-based organizations use dues to hire large staffs. We don't. We rely on a small staff of professionals and your expertise. How does it work? Our staff of professionals — each with many years of experience in their individual areas — coordinate and facilitate the work of dedicated committees. We provide the management and you provide the expertise. Through a defined set of working committees comprised of members with expertise in a particular area, we take your ideas and input from membership surveys, seminars, member meetings and other forums and turn them into action.

## **Chemical Industry Committee**

The unique needs of Tennessee's chemical industry – the 10th largest in the nation – extend beyond just environmental concerns. The committee serves to define policy needs and the resources to support this critical industry.

## **Education Committee**

The workforce of tomorrow is in the schools of today. From K-16, business and industry has a vested interest in the success of our state's public school system. The committee identifies projects – such as Tennessee Scholars – and tracks their successful implementation as well as identifying and recommending policy changes and positions that will make our school systems more successful.

## **Environment Committee**

The Chamber is the only business group in the state that focuses on environmental issues in both the legislative and regulatory areas. The committee and its subcommittees work with state regulators to impact regulations prior to the adoption of new or revised rules or program guidance.

## **Human Resources Committee**

All employment law issues come through this committee, including health care costs, mandated benefits, workers' compensation and unemployment compensation. The committee provides guidance to the Tennessee Chamber's leadership and staff in the development and implementation of human resource programs and services as well as identifying and making recommendations on proposed government policies and legislation. To assist members in their quest for total quality, the committee seeks to make available through publications, seminars, training programs, and networking the most innovative human resource processes and ideas believing that the key to total quality and preventing third-party intervention is excellence in human resources.

## **Public Affairs Committee**

The committee represents the membership and business community by identifying, monitoring, and developing a legislative package that would ensure pro-business legislation and policies. The committee further supports the candidacy of pro-business candidates through its commitment to growing and maintaining a strong Political Action Committee.

## **Taxation Committee**

The committee works to ensure a favorable business tax climate in Tennessee through analyzing tax issues, recommending positions and giving testimony at legislative and regulatory hearings on tax matters and through educating, coordinating and working actively with taxing entities to ensure the fair and equitable administration of taxes.

## **Manufacturing Excellence Council**

This committee safeguards the future of manufacturing in Tennessee by developing a plan of action for promoting the value of manufacturing, by identifying and recommending legislation to strengthen manufacturing and providing input into the impact of state and federal policies on the future of manufacturing.