

The Public Policy Committee will have the authority to establish positions and act on legislative issues as outlined in the legislative agenda and as long as they are consistent with the Guiding Principles. If an issue arises, that does not meet this criteria, the Chamber's Executive Committee can review and approve any issues or recommendation arising in the event action must be taken prior to the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting.

## **PUBLIC POLICY GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce encourages the election to all elected offices of business-minded individuals who are responsive and accountable to the community's needs.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce supports economic development initiatives which enhance the competitiveness of new and existing businesses.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce must ensure that high quality, cost-effective government services are offered in a manner conducive to the growth of competitive businesses which create jobs in the community.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce encourages the privatization and consolidation of services throughout the region when these actions are in the best interest of the public.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce supports equity in tax and fee structure that returns benefit to the business community and promotes continued economic growth in the region.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce must ensure that the economic impact of regulations and administrative procedures are positive and supportive of economic growth while allowing businesses to meet the challenges facing them without unfair government controls and mandates.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce must ensure an adequate level of funding for the marketing and advertising of the Charleston area, both nationally and internationally, as an attractive vacation destination and business location.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce must ensure that the quality of public education is recognized as a business issue, and that a system of accountability for student achievement is established and maintained.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce must ensure that the public education system, in partnership with the business community, prepares all students to be successful in the workplace.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce encourages creative and adequate funding methods to ensure that our public school system and institutions of higher learning can remain effective in their quest for excellence.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce must maintain a commitment to reasonable actions that protect and conserve the environment.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce encourages changes in the health care system which promote competitiveness without sacrificing quality of care.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce supports a comprehensively planned, constructed, and well-maintained infrastructure as a key to long-term economic development and quality growth in the region.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce will represent the business community in ensuring accountability and cost-effective government solutions to regional infrastructure problems of today and the future.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce encourages efforts that support and ensure equal opportunity for all citizens of the region.
- ◆ The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce must support and promote the continued development of the region's key economic sectors including the Port of Charleston, health care, hospitality, manufacturing, military and defense, real estate and construction and knowledge-based and service industries.