



Governor

Building a Stronger Delaware

GOVERNOR JOHN CARNEY opened his remarks of the evening with a message of gratitude towards the business community's effect on the state: "The fact is that good jobs solve a lot of problems: they help families put food on the table, pay their mortgage, save for college and retirement, sock away money for vacations, and make sure we can fund our state government."

He focused his comments on Delaware's workforce and the need to provide the necessary skills to Delawareans so they can fill available jobs. He emphasized the fact that there are 30,000 job vacancies in the state, but only 21,000 people looking for work. "Economic development is a team sport, and we need everybody at the table working together to be successful," he stressed.

"1,100 of our best friends are here in the room tonight. Thank you to the State Chamber for bringing us all together."

— Governor John Carney

He highlighted a few initiatives and partnerships being done to combat this issue, including:

- The creation of the Delaware Prosperity Partnership, a public-private initiative to attract, grow, and retain businesses to Delaware
- The formation and funding of NIIMBL and SABRE, both research projects occurring at the University of Delaware's STAR Campus
- Working with Delaware Technical Community College and other organizations to expand training programs throughout the state
- Investments allocated towards early childhood education, affordable childcare for working parents, and teacher salary increases

Carney also mentioned how it has been a goal to diversify Delaware's economy – especially the innovation and science and technology sectors. With a nod to the evening's keynote speaker, Mr. Hervé Hoppenot, he said: "These companies are driving the future of our economic growth and are making things here in Delaware. No Delaware company embodies that spirit of innovation more than Incyte. I want to recognize Hervé and his team for their commitment to Delaware. They are one of the best success stories we have."