

# 2024 PRIORITIES FOR DELAWARE

The Delaware State Chamber of Commerce is uniquely positioned to bring people together to solve problems, create jobs, promote business, and improve the quality of life for all Delawareans. This list of priorities impacts businesses, both large and small, in every industry across the state of Delaware.

#### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING & EDUCATION

- Promote policies that support the skills and training programs aligned with employers' needs and help upskill Delaware's workforce
- Inform policymakers about the unintended consequences associated with mandating employee benefits and how those types of policies may impact businesses and their employees
- Create employment opportunities with an emphasis on building trades, technology, health care, and logistics
- Support employer-led diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives to help close demographic-based opportunity gaps across all industries
- Assist in solving outdated barriers to re-entry and encourage employment opportunities for second chance individuals

### ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY, & SUSTAINABILITY

- Encourage science-based environmental policies that reflect collaboration between all stakeholders to create practical policies and solutions that improve the environment while growing Delaware's economy
- Bolster public and private sector investments in clean energy that will also create new jobs
- Support the cleanup of brownfield sites
- Invest in infrastructure that improves resiliency from coastal flooding

#### HEALTH CARE

- Advance policies that increase access to health care by providing businesses with greater flexibility and options for employee insurance coverage
- Promote workplace wellness programs and policies that improve the physical and mental health of Delawareans
- Support efforts to strengthen the health care workforce to meet the needs of Delaware's growing and aging population

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Continue advancing improvements to the permitting process, like the Ready in 6 initiative and others
- Advocate for laws and law-making processes that are collaborative and allow for certain and predictable stakeholder comment periods for the business community and all stakeholders
- Invest in site readiness so there are "options on the shelf" for businesses looking to expand or relocate
- Support innovative ideas and policies that address affordability and the diversification of Delaware's housing inventory

## FISCAL POLICY

- Back tax policies that incentivize workforce training
- Inform policymakers about the importance of protecting Delaware's franchise laws and the impact that revenue has on the state's overall budget
- Encourage pro-growth tax and fiscal policies that preserve Delaware's competitiveness and increase business' ability to expand and create jobs