

January 16, 2024

Dear Members of the Arizona Legislature,

We are reaching out to you on behalf of the undersigned organizations and businesses committed to advancing policies that stimulate economic growth and prosperity for all Arizonans. Collectively, our organizations and businesses represent hundreds of thousands of hardworking Arizonans across multiple industry sectors. We write to you today in support of the continuation of the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) and the critical programs it oversees that have made our state the best place to work and own a business.

Background

During the recovery from the great recession, leaders from around Arizona came together to creatively revamp the state's economic approach. This new model – the Arizona Commerce Authority – was designed to diversify Arizona's economy and attract, expand, and create new businesses and job opportunities. This approach had never been tried before and is now the leading example of economic development success across the nation. Arizona's growth since 2011 has been astounding, with record-level investments creating thousands of new high wage jobs for our residents.

Impact on economy and jobs

Since its inception, the ACA has contributed to Arizona's economic success through the attraction of new projects and expansion of existing Arizona companies. Some significant wins include:

- 1,209 projects won,
- 272,803 projected new jobs,
- \$60,808 average wage, and
- \$115.694 billion in projected total capital investment.

The impact of this success on our economy has been profound. It's estimated that ACA projects will produce \$11.3 billion in tax revenue and \$442.3 billion in economic output. The direct, indirect, and induced projected jobs total is 886,933. These new jobs are shifting our economy and Arizona is now more well positioned than ever. With the help of the ACA, Arizona has dramatically reshaped the outlook of our economy. For example, since 2011, Arizona's workforce has grown by 28%, the 5th-fastest growth rate in the nation.

Additionally, we have seen rapid growth in employment in varying industries. Prior to the creation of ACA, the main economic driver within Arizona's economy was construction. Now, Arizona has more manufacturing jobs than construction and our economic outlook for the future has never been better because of the diversification the ACA helped to create. Furthermore, JLBC shows Arizona's General Fund revenue increased by more than \$5 billion from 2011 to 2023, from \$8.3B to almost \$13.5B, as Arizona has added new jobs, businesses, and workers.

The ACA also plays a central role in workforce development, partnering with industry, universities, community colleges, and more to meet the increased workforce demand and develop a skilled talent pipeline that is ready to support the anticipated growth in our state.

Industry growth & diversification

In addition to attracting business and advancing our global competitiveness, ACA offers a host of programs that have been crafted by policymakers to support businesses of all sizes in all corners of Arizona. They specifically have focused on supporting the growth and success of rural and small businesses.

The manufacturing industry has exploded under the leadership of the ACA, which has helped secure historic investments throughout the state. Arizona has become a sustainability ecosystem with the manufacturing of microchips, electric vehicles, batteries, and more. The growth in manufacturing has helped onshore the supply chain stimulating our economy, creating jobs, and protecting national security by reducing our reliance on international supply chains. Innovation is at the core of ACA's mission, and they continue to team up with startups and entrepreneurs to spur investment in Arizona.

Preparing for the future

The Arizona Commerce Authority continues to be critical to economic development in our state, and it's imperative that it is continued. ACA has exceeded its original mission and has become a model for job attraction that is being mirrored nationwide. We strongly urge the state Legislature to support ACA's continuation.

We are grateful for the continued leadership of our legislators who have worked to ensure Arizona remains competitive on the global level and pursue policies that make Arizona the best state to start and grow a business.

Sincerely,

Aluminum Dynamics, Inc., a subsidiary of Steel Dynamics, Inc.
Amazon
American Battery Factory, Inc.
American Chemistry Council
Amkor Technology
Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce
Applied Materials, Inc.
Arizona Association for Economic Development
Arizona Association of Realtors
Arizona Bankers Association
Arizona Bioindustry Association, Inc. (AZBio)
Arizona Builders Alliance
Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Arizona Chapter of NAIOP
Arizona Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America, Inc.
Arizona Complete Health
Arizona Lodging & Tourism Association
Arizona Manufacturer's Council
Arizona Mining Association
Arizona Multihousing Association
Arizona Public Service
Arizona Rock Products Association

Arizona Small Business Association
Arizona State University
Arizona Technology Council & SciTech Institute
Arizona Transportation Builders Alliance
Banner Health
Becton, Dickinson & Company
Benchmark
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona
Bombardier, Inc.
Buckeye Chamber of Commerce
CalPortland Company
Carefree Cave Creek Chamber of Commerce
Chandler Chamber of Commerce
Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Coolidge Chamber of Commerce
Cox Communications
Dexcom
East Valley Chambers of Commerce Alliance
Ecolab
EdgeCore Digital Infrastructure
Eloy Chamber of Commerce
EMD Electronics
EnPro Industries, Inc.
Fortescue
Freeport-McMoRan
Garrett Motors Chevrolet Buick GMC
Gilbert Chamber of Commerce
Glendal Chamber of Commerce
Google Inc.
Greater Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce
Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce
Greater Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce
Greater Phoenix Chamber
Greater Phoenix Leadership
Health System Alliance of Arizona
Honeywell
Intel
LCY Chemical Corp.
LG Energy Solution Arizona Inc.
Lucid Motors
Lumen Technologies
Maricopa County Community College District
Mercury Systems
Mesa Chamber of Commerce
Microsoft Corporation
Nikola Corporation
Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce
Paypal

Peoria Chamber of Commerce
Phoenix Children's
Pivot Manufacturing
Public Square Public Affairs
Queen Creek Chamber of Commerce
Raytheon Technologies Corporation
Republic National Distributing Company
Republic Services
RMB III Consultancy, LLC
SA Recycling**
Salt River Project
Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce
Shamrock Foods Company
Skin Perfected Aesthetics
Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.
Southern Arizona Leadership Council
Southwest Gas Corporation
Southwest Valley Chamber of Commerce
Spread the Love LLC
Sunland Visitor Center
Tempe Chamber of Commerce
The Boeing Company
The Ruby Marketing Agency
TSMC AZ Corporation
Tucson Electric Power/UniSource Energy Services
TYR Tactical
Universal Technical Institute
Valadez and Associates
Valley Partnership
Valleywise Health
Verizon
Viavi Solutions
Waymo
Wells Fargo
West Valley Chamber of Commerce Alliance
Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce
XNRGY Climate Systems