



**DAILY NEWSLETTER. REPORTING THE  
IMPORTANT BUSINESS NEWS OF THE DAY.**

**Friday, January 22, 2016  
52nd Legislature, Second Session  
Day 3**

**CHAMBER LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE ANNOUNCED**



Liz Shipley  
Chairman of the Board

The Chamber's Board of Directors met in Albuquerque today and approved the Chamber's legislative package for the 2016 Session. The package emphasizes

**economic development, public education and public safety.** “Members of the Board and the Chamber staff have spent countless hours on it, including meeting with the administration, members and staff of the legislature and collaborating with other business organizations, to help determine our legislative priorities,” said Liz Shipley, Chair of the Board.

Despite less ‘new money’ than previously anticipated, Chamber Vice Chair of Business Advocacy Sherman McCorkle said, “There’s an incredible number of non-monetary bills that are of keen interest to the business community in the areas of jobs, education and public safety.”



Terri Cole, President and CEO



Sherman McCorkle, Vice Chair

Chamber President and CEO, Terri Cole said there is a great deal that can be accomplished if all sides work together. “Finally bringing Real ID compliant drivers licenses to our citizens, passing tougher penalties for violent crimes and child abuse and making changes to ensure our kids learn to read are all examples of important policies that can be changed and cost very little, if anything,” she said.

Here is the Chamber’s legislative package:

**AGENDA FOR JOBS, EDUCATION, PUBLIC SAFETY  
GREATER ALBUQUERQUE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
52ND LEGISLATURE, 2ND SESSION**

**STATE FY17 BUDGET  
Support**

- Consensus Revenue Estimating Group projection for \$232M (3.7% growth) in “New Money” until a final projection agreement is reached.\*

\*The Consensus Revenue Estimating Group has already decreased their projection from \$293M in August 2015 to \$232M. They will likely meet again in late January to update their projection. If the consensus revenue projection is lowered once more to the point that little new money is available, the Chamber would then support funding on-going government operations at FY16 levels. However, should any new revenues be available above last year's level, these should be prioritized for education and public safety initiatives. The Chamber does not support efforts by the Legislature to hold back dollars within the agreed upon projection with the intent of releasing those funds only if revenue is satisfactory. We recommend instead lowering the projection. The chamber supports maintaining the integrity of the revenue projection process. Contingent spending, we believe, overrides the effective and well-established process for determining available new dollars to spend.

- Restraint in government growth (recurring expenditures) leading to a predictable, stable and welcoming business environment
- Administration and LFC recommended reserves of about 8%
- Administration recommendation of \$14.5M fortargeted compensation increases in order to retain and recruit certain state employees including corrections officers, child abuse caseworkers, public health workers and state police officers
- Administration recommendation to raise minimum starting teacher salaries by 5.9% from 34k to 36k and LFC recommendation to raise minimum starting teacher salaries from \$34k to \$35k

### **Oppose**

- Any tax increases or reduction of existing incentives
- Any use of Permanent Fund or other fund dollars for purposes not intended
- Reinstatement of Gross Receipts Tax on food sales
- Across-the-board compensation increases for all state employees

**CAPITAL FY17 BUDGET - \$149M available for legislatively-allocated capital projects**

## **Support**

- Focus on infrastructure (Roads, Water, Buildings, etc.)
- Large-Scale projects locals cannot afford themselves
- Capital Outlay Reform legislation driven by the legislature and the Governor, which is transparent, objective and primarily focuses on large-scale, infrastructure projects
- Administration recommendation of \$5M in capital outlay for new Pre-K classrooms
- Administration recommendation of \$10M in capital outlay to top off LEDA to \$50M

## **TAX POLICY**

### **Support**

- HB184 (Rep. Sarah Maestas Barnes) PIT Tax Deduction for Small Business owners
- SB16 (Sen. William Burt and Rep. David Adkins) Uniformed Service Retiree Tax Credit
- Technology Research Collaborative - \$1.5M

### **Oppose**

- Unitary Tax

## **NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION**

### **Support**

- HB67 (Rep. Monica Youngblood) Ending Social Promotion
- (Rep. Jimmy Hall and Sen. Sue Wilson Beffort) Expansion of Anti-Truancy Programs by establishing intervention and suspension of driver's license or permit for habitually truant high school students
- HB145 (Rep. James Conrad) and SB114 (Senator Ron Griggs)

Adjunct Teacher Licensure provides for content-experts to teach in NM public schools on part-time basis

- On-Site Family Resource Centers
- HB41 (Rep. Bill Rehm) School Superintendent Contract Criteria provides for prevention of large settlements to departing superintendents
- HB127 (Rep. David Atkins) Background checks
- Expanding effective school choice options for families, especially for access to high performing charter schools

**Below the Line funding of \$154.9M to include the following requests:**

- Administration recommendation of \$25M for New Mexico Reads to Lead (reading coaches, interventionists, parent training, teacher supports) and LFC recommendation of \$21M
- LFC recommendation of \$32.2M and Administration recommendation of \$27.2M in below the line funding for Kindergarten-Three-Plus
- LFC recommendation of \$24.5M and Administration recommendation of \$28M for Pre-Kindergarten
- New Mexico Graduates Now to support increased graduation rates, decreased drop outs at \$4M and LFC recommendation of \$3.5M
- Administration recommendation for continued expansion of Advanced Placement programs in NM at \$2M
- Interventions which continue turnaround programs, drop out and truancy prevention coaches at Administration request of \$13M and LFC recommendation of \$13M
- Administration recommendation of \$3M and LFC recommendation of \$3M for STEM Initiative (STEM teachers professional development and stipends)
- Teacher/School Leader Programs, including pay for performance at \$15M

- Top 50 Teachers in NM (\$500k) and Exemplary Teacher Residency (\$1M) which rewards and recruits exemplary teachers

### **Oppose**

- Moratorium on Charter Schools

## **HIGHER EDUCATION**

### **Support**

- HB17 (Rep. Stephanie Garcia Richard) Veteran Definition to ensure in-state tuition benefits for veterans and their families
- (Senator Pete Campos) to provide expanded financial support to minority doctoral individuals
- Budget request of \$400k for staff retention and recruitment
- Budget request of \$1.35M to increase financial aid to child welfare, teachers, medical students and nursing

### **Oppose**

- Efforts to specify funding formula mechanics
- Efforts to prematurely change transfer articulation policies

## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

### **Support**

- HB128 (Rep. Carl Trujillo) Broadband Tax Incentive Legislation
- HB170 (Rep. Larry Larranaga) Appropriation of \$950K in funding to study broadband infrastructure needs.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Support**

- Right-to-Work

- HB63 (Rep. Dennis Roche) No indemnity/medical benefits under workman's compensation if worker's injury or death resulted from alcohol/drug use at the time.
- HB194 (Rep. Cathrynn Brown) "Employer Responsibility" legislation for worker's compensation
- HB195 (Rep. Randal Crowder) Clarifying workers comp that employers and insurance companies don't have to pay for employee medical cannabis use
- HB200 (Rep. Nora Espinoza) Fix Prevailing Wage
- State preemption of local employment law
- HB140 (Rep. Larry Larranaga) Natural gas public utility infrastructure expansion
- Unemployment Insurance legislation that will not have a negative consequence for business owners or risk the solvency of the fund
- SB92 (Senator Ted Barela) Administration and Jobs Council recommendation to create Rapid Workforce Deployment and fund at \$1.25M
- Administration recommendation of \$500K and LFC recommendation of \$500K for New Mexico MainStreet program
- Legislative Jobs Council recommendation of appropriation of \$2M for The New Mexico Partnership
- (Rep. Don Tripp and Sen. Mary Kay Papen) Jobs Council recommendation for \$2.25M to fund the Economic Development Grant Act
- Administration and Jobs Council recommendation of \$8M non-recurring and \$2M recurring for JTIP

## **Oppose**

- **Increase in Minimum Wage**

The Chamber's position on a state-wide minimum wage increase is that if such an increase is passed, we support ensuring that the resulting increase

will not make New Mexico less competitive than surrounding states in the region and that it is written in such a way as to protect small businesses. We do oppose annual indexing increases.

## **TOURISM**

### **Support**

- Administration and Jobs Council recommendation of \$2.3M

## **PUBLIC AND CHILD SAFETY**

### **Support**

- HB99 (Rep. Paul Pacheco) Two-Tiered Driver's License
- HB171 (Rep. Larry Larranaga and Senator Stu Ingle) Return to work for police officers
- HB81 (Rep. Paul Pacheco), HB82 (Rep. Jim Dines) and HB83 (Rep. Sarah Maestas Barnes) to increase penalties for repeat DWI offenders
- HB56 (Rep. Paul Pacheco) and HB37 (Rep. Bill Rehm) Expand 3 strikes law
- HB29 (Rep. Nate Gentry/Rep. Paul Pacheco) Curfews in Local Jurisdictions
- HB27 (Rep. David Gallegos) "Racheal's Law" Protective Orders for Rape Victims
- HB181 (Rep. Paul Pacheco) Absconding from Parole as Fourth Degree Felony
- HB 153 (Rep. Nate Gentry) Clearinghouse for Criminal Background Checks of Defendants
- HB 183 (Rep. Tim Lewis) Dual Sentencing (Juvenile/Adult)
- SB 113 (Sen. Mary Kay Papen) Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT)  
- Senator Mary Kay Papen

- HB68 (Rep. Conrad James) Intentional Child Abuse Penalties
- HB69 (Rep. Conrad James) Intentional Child Abuse Penalties Resulting in Death
- HB121 (Rep. Sharon Clahchischilliage) Expand Scope of Certain Sexual Crimes
- HB142 (Rep Doreen Gallegos) Battery on a CYFD Worker
- HB30 (Rep. Kelly Fajardo) Communication of Certain Images to Children
- CYFD Budget Request of \$8M for CYFD Home Visiting and Early Childhood Outreach, Family Support Initiatives and Pull Together Campaign

## **ENERGY**

### **Support**

- Low-Carbon Portfolio Standard

## **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

### **Support**

- SJR1 (Senator Peter Wirth) Denial of bail for dangerous criminals

### **Oppose**

- SJR2 (Senator Michael Padilla) Permanent Funds for childhood education
- SJR3 (Senator Michael Padilla) Permanent Fund annual distributions
- HJR10 (Rep. Moe Maestas) Permanent Funds for Early Childhood
- HJR13 (Rep. David Adkins) Denial of bail for dangerous criminals

## **Questions? Call:**

*Elizabeth Shipley, Chairman of the Board - 463-6482*  
 Terri L. Cole, President/CEO - 239-6553

*Rick Alvidrez, Education and Workforce - 842-4737*  
*Tom Antram, Chairman Elect - 842-7152*  
*Pat Vincent Collawn, Public Safety - 241-2700*  
*Dale Dekker, Vice Chair, 2065 Plan - 239-8415*  
*Sherman McCorkle, Vice Chair, Business Advocacy, State and Federal Government - 235-8719*  
*Del Archuleta, Past Chairman - 242-5700*  
Jacqueline DuBose Christensen, Lobbyist - 259-5304  
Marc Christensen, Lobbyist - 554-5715

For additional detail on the Chamber's legislative package: [click here](#).

### **BUSY WEEK AHEAD**

The House is already off and running, having acted on several major bills already and we're sure the Senate will crank up its activities starting on Monday. We expect a new revenue forecast early next week that will transform the budget process. Committee action will be taken on many bills and we expect the full House will debate crime bills approved in committee yesterday. We'll be there participating on behalf of Chamber members and we'll bring all the news that's fit to print every day. Thanks for being with us and have a wonderful weekend.

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[Click here](#) for a link to a list of New Mexico Legislators.

The Chamber Legislative Roundup, published during the New Mexico Legislative Session by the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce provides information on local and state public policy and business issues that affect you.

For questions, please email Terri Cole, President and CEO, at [tcole@abqchamber.com](mailto:tcole@abqchamber.com)