

The Texas Association of Business (TAB) supports initiatives that encourage economic growth and protect the pro-Texas, pro-jobs philosophy. Our purpose is to champion the best business climate in the world, unleashing the power of free enterprise to enhance lives for generations. Find the full package of legislative priorities at [TxBiz.org](https://www.txbiz.org).

Questions? Contact Megan Mauro ([mmauro@txbiz.org](mailto:mmauro@txbiz.org)) or Gabriela Perdichizzi ([gabriela@txbiz.org](mailto:gabriela@txbiz.org)).

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

***TAB is committed to ensuring Texas remains the best state for business, fostering an environment that attracts investments, supports innovation, and drives economic growth.***

- Prioritize funding for critical incentives, R&D tax credits, Texas Enterprise Fund, and strategic tax exemptions to boost competitiveness.
- Support existing and future state semiconductor and space initiatives.
- Support efforts to maximize the impact and improve efficiencies of the Jobs, Energy, Technology, & Innovation (JETI) Act, a state incentive program for capital intensive developments.
- Expand Texas foreign offices to attract strategic international investment and promote Texas businesses abroad, including in Jerusalem, Israel.
- Support legislation that gives Texans the opportunity to vote for the creation of destination resorts with gaming in the state.
- Support the exploration of a Texas dual-use fund to expand innovation opportunities that will benefit both public and private interests.
- Promote critical infrastructure investment, including high-speed broadband access statewide and data centers.

## TECH & INNOVATION

***TAB champions a tech-forward Texas by fostering a vibrant innovation ecosystem, supporting emerging technologies, and building a competitive digital landscape.***

- Support Texas leading the nation in an innovative approach on AI regulation and emerging technology policies, while maintaining Texas' light regulatory touch, and without limiting businesses, entrepreneurs, and VC's from investing and innovating in Texas.
- Advocate for developing a skilled tech workforce to meet business needs in a rapidly evolving industry.
- Encourage public-private partnerships to drive tech innovation and attract top talent.
- Position Texas as a global leader in advanced technology to bolster economic growth and competitiveness.

## ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES

***TAB supports an all-encompassing energy strategy that strengthens Texas' leadership in traditional and renewable energy sectors, ensuring reliable, sustainable growth.***

- Promote a resilient energy market that includes an "all-of-the-above-and-below" approach, including support for traditional oil and gas, solar, wind, nuclear, carbon capture, geothermal, hydrogen, and battery storage
- Encourage innovation and minimize regulatory burdens to attract investment in energy infrastructure.
- Support statewide strategies to provide an adequate and cost-effective supply of water resources, including the exploration of a dedicated source of funding for water infrastructure.
- Advocate for policies that support both economic growth and environmental sustainability.

## HEALTHCARE

***TAB is dedicated to advancing policies that expand high-quality, affordable healthcare options for Texans.***

- Preserve employer, employee, and health plan benefits of ERISA by opposing any attempt to erode the federal preemption of state law relating to health benefit plans.
- Oppose any new mandated benefit for health plans, and include a score of the estimated cost impact for any new mandated benefits to ensure transparency.
- Advocate for flexible insurance options and transparency in healthcare pricing to empower informed choices.
- Promote policies that reduce regulatory burdens for small businesses and ensure consistent access to quality healthcare.
- Enhance access to healthcare by supporting innovative care models and fostering a stable healthcare market.

## EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

***TAB champions data-driven educational and workforce policies to build a skilled, adaptable workforce that powers Texas' economy.***

- Support HB8 implementation and additional funding and find areas for improved outcomes, including increased dual-enrollment strategies.
- Support STEM education and workforce training to meet employer needs and promote reskilling and upskilling programs to create career pathways aligned with industry demand.
- Advocate for creative solutions to expand access to affordable and quality childcare and support measures to increase access “missing middle” housing.
- Support measures that make re-entry to civilian employment more straightforward for veterans, and support licensing reform for spouses of active duty military.
- TAB supports measures that reduce employment barriers for people with a criminal record and policies that benefit Texas Second Chance Employers.

## TAX

***TAB supports policies that reduce tax burdens for entrepreneurs and employers, develop a skilled workforce, and retain and improve Texas' sound regulatory climate.***

- Support property tax reforms, like tax compression, to equitably distribute the burden of business sector taxes among all businesses, including service and manufacturing.
- Support efforts to modernize systems across government agencies to reduce administrative burdens, increase efficiency, promote innovation, enhance transparency, and provide cost savings to businesses and taxpayers.
- Support the reduction or elimination of inventory tax.
- Oppose appraisal caps on all real property, which creates an unequal distribution of taxes over time.

## TORT REFORM

***TAB is committed to protecting Texas' reputation as the model for lawsuit reform and a legal system that is good for business.***

- Protect private employer rights and oppose costly legal actions, including new private rights of action, that harm businesses.
- Support limiting the proliferation of ‘nuclear verdicts’ that result in unsustainable increases in the cost of insurance and compliance costs.
- Support broadening the jurisdiction of business courts to encompass a wide range of business-to-business disputes, thereby fostering a fair, efficient judicial system and promoting a pro-growth economy for businesses.
- Prevent the misuse of public nuisance laws as a weapon against legitimate business operations.

# 2025 Coalition Roadmap

## 89th Legislative Session

### TAB-LED COALITIONS

#### **Tech Means Business**

Megan (Lead)

Gabriela (Support)

#### **Carbon Capture Coalition**

Gabriela (Lead)

Megan (Support)

#### **Texas Scale-Up Coalition**

Gabriela (Lead)

Megan (Support)

### Addt. Coalitions - TAB Leading Role

#### **Texans for Innovation (TTARA Lead, TAB, THBI, TAM, TCC, TTARA) R&D Tax Credit**

Gabriela (Lead)

Megan (Support)

#### **Texas Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Coalition (TAB, TAM, Texas2036)**

Gabriela (Lead)

Jeff (Support)

#### **Lone Star Economic Alliance (LSEA) Coalition (TLR lead)**

Megan (Lead)

Gabriela (Support)

#### **Water Dedication Fund Coalition (Texas 2036, GHP, TAB)**

Jeff (Lead)

Gabriela (Support)

#### **Employers For Childcare (E4C) Task Force (TX Restaurant Association, TAB, Texas 2036, Commit)**

Megan (Lead)