

# Creating A Climate For Jobs Starts With:

## Restoring Confidence.

✓ That's what Connecticut businesses need in order to hire again, expand, and increase their investments in the state.

Creating a climate in which the private sector can drive our economy is the key to business confidence, jobs, and solutions to the state's fiscal challenges.

## Taking advantage of an opportunity.

✓ The Jobs Special Session is a great opportunity for lawmakers to create confidence and a more positive and productive partnership with the business community.

While there is a role for state-funded programs to help stimulate job creation, Connecticut's future ultimately depends on the ability of our private sector to compete nationally and globally.

## Building on our strengths.

✓ Connecticut has a solid economic base with world-renowned companies in such industries as high-tech manufacturing, insurance and financial services, and biosciences and pharmaceuticals. Ours is a heritage of technology and innovation. And our workforce is highly prized throughout the nation.

## Being persistent.

✓ Our jobs focus can't end with the special session.

It's time for everyone in Connecticut to keep pulling together to make our state the job creation leader it can be.

Here is CBIA's slate of actions to help create the kind of environment that will encourage Connecticut's private-sector businesses to grow here.

# IT'S TIME TO WORK TOGETHER FOR JOBS

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# CREATING A CLIMATE FOR JOBS



## CBIA'S PRO-JOBS AGENDA



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## IMPROVE STATE TAX & FISCAL POLICY

State government can win back business confidence by becoming more efficient, maximizing tax dollars, and strategically leveraging tax policy to help our economy grow.

### Optimize the Use of Tax Credits

Research and innovation grow jobs, and Connecticut is a leader in both. But Connecticut's R&D, research and experimentation and fixed-capital tax credits are limited by a 70% cap.

- ▶ Eliminate the 70% cap on R&D and fixed-capital tax credits, or at a minimum, outline a gradual rollback timeline
- ▶ Provide new-hire tax credits for small businesses
- ▶ Expand the angel investor tax credit

### Require Economic-Impact Statements

We need to know how legislative proposals could affect Connecticut's businesses and economy.

- ▶ Develop, with the input of economists and the academic community, practical economic-impact statements to be included with all legislative proposals
- ▶ Analysis should include the impact on job creation and retention, and other factors such as capital investment,

the multiplier effect of jobs to be created, and Connecticut's overall competitiveness

### Continue to Streamline State Government

The state budget reduces the number of state agencies and creates efficiencies within government, but more needs to be done. Proven practices and efficiency strategies can create a more effective and efficient state government here.

- ▶ Expand the use of lean techniques and other efficiency strategies throughout state government to maximize taxpayer dollars
- ▶ Continue and accelerate the use of qualified nonprofit organizations to provide a wide range of cost-effective, community-based services
- ▶ Work throughout state agencies to limit the use of overtime to avoid undue buildup of pension obligations
- ▶ Streamline the effectiveness of state IT and communication resources to allow the state to gradually reduce costs without loss of service
- ▶ Continue to improve prison recidivism rates to reduce the cost and number of state prisons



## MODERNIZE CONNECTICUT'S INFRASTRUCTURE

Strategic, prioritized investments can bring our aging transportation system into the 21st century and enable our economy and jobs to grow.

- ▶ Require the DOT to develop a plan that coordinates all proposed and approved projects aimed at modernizing the I-91 and I-95 corridors connecting Connecticut with the New York and Boston markets

- ▶ Support the efforts of the new Connecticut Airport Authority to promote the greater economic development capacity of Bradley International and the state's five other general aviation airports



## CUT RED TAPE

Cutting bureaucratic red tape, reducing regulatory costs, and helping businesses understand and comply with myriad complex state regulations are important to unlocking economic growth.

### Regulation Adoption and Review

Adopt a statement modeled after President Obama's Executive Order #13563 (Jan. 18, 2011) that specifies how government will promote economic development as it protects public safety and other interests.

### General Permits

Make Connecticut's permitting process more efficient, resulting in permit requirements that are reasonable, cost-effective and consistent with federal requirements and those of other states. Adopt general permits, which can apply to hundreds of businesses across the state, in a manner similar to the adoption of regulations—including fiscal-impact and federal-consistency evaluations. Include evaluations of the best practices of other states as part of a "competitiveness-impact" analysis.

### Agency Guidance

State regulators should focus more on helping businesses understand often-complex regulations and reserving punitive enforcement measures to true offenders. Help should include greater use of written "guidance" materials (clearly labeled as guidance) that reference the underlying statutes or regulations they seek to clarify, and that are compiled and readily accessible to the regulated community.

### Expand the Business-Friendly 'Concierge' Program

We need to break down the barriers between businesses and the state. Lawmakers passed legislation this year that begins cutting through the red tape. It's time for the next step.

- ▶ Expand the 'concierge' program. Develop this one-stop resource for businesses so that it includes support personnel who can help employers quickly navigate state government.



## PRODUCE A MORE COMPETITIVE WORKFORCE

We must close any "skills gap" preventing employers from expanding their workforces, and we must help current and future employees keep pace with changing skills requirements.

- ▶ Restore funds available for incumbent worker training and target them to such economic-growth sectors as manufacturing, healthcare and energy
- ▶ Open the state's technical high schools' manufacturing laboratories and classrooms for evening and weekend training to increase the state's capacity to train or retrain individuals for critical manufacturing jobs
- ▶ Support national industry-recognized skill certifications for workforce development systems