



2019 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Seek achievable funding strategy for completion of I-73 southern segment;
- Maintain and expand, as appropriate, the commitment for I-73 as a tourism related infrastructure & evacuation project made by Horry County;
- Seek funding to extend S.C. 31 to NC border;
- Seek Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Southern Evacuation Life Line (SELL);
- Continued funding for beach renourishment;
- Seek funding for deep water ocean outfall projects on a reoccurring basis;
- Seek funding for adequate maintenance of Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway to enhance commercial & recreational benefits to businesses residents and visitors;
- Allow PFCs to be inflation-adjusted for necessary expansion/enhancement of air service facilities & equipment.

TOURISM

- Maintain Destination-Specific Matching Grant program while seeking additional funding;
- Support secure travel partnerships with friendly nations that meet national security guidelines, to allow for increased inbound international tourism;
- Maintain Open Skies agreements, ensuring a level playing field for global air service;
- Support current structure of state and local tourism related advertising models, including the Accommodations Tax, Hospitality Tax and Tourism Development Fee;
- Support progress made by local municipalities to make communities more family-friendly, including efforts to increase public safety presence.

EDUCATION

- Meet needs-based funding for local post-secondary educational institutions, specifically CCU & HGTC;
- Equity in funding and success measurements for public schools and publicly-funded charter schools;
- Maintain a sensible statewide school start date no earlier than the third Monday in August with a testing window that allows flexibility in start date with consistent time-in-class prior to testing.

HEALTHCARE

- Seek broadened use of industry-specific healthcare plans owned/operated by industry trade associations.

WORKFORCE

- Support Returning Worker Exemption for H-2B visa workers along with other reforms to make this program more reliable for the businesses that depend on it;
- Protect seasonal workforce programs, including H-2B, J1 and J2 visas;
- Support sensible legislation that promotes the safe consumption of alcohol at restaurants & does not adversely affect workforce and hospitality industry.

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

- Support comprehensive energy plan to ensure energy independence and optimize cost-effective use of renewable & alternative energy sources, including nuclear, solar and wind power;
- Ensure efficient delivery of energy needs to commercial and residential customers while directing tax incentives at job creation for alternative energy sources;
- Support sensible, flexible and business-friendly guidelines for recycling programs within targeted industries;
- Reform regulations that are preventing meaningful, industry-wide, improvements to energy production.

TAXATION

- Eliminate SC Corporate Income tax;
- Make permanent certain individual and business tax cuts and support repatriation for profits.