

Mississippi Economic Council

The State Chamber

2025 Priority Legislative Issues



Healthcare

- Working with legislative leaders to find workable solutions and help shape a plan to increase access to healthcare for working Mississippians that explores all available options, including the use of additional federal funding
- Finding a reasonable path to addressing concerns around Pharmacy Benefit Management (PBM) that will not place unnecessary burdens on companies that provide benefits to their employees through self-insured plans or group policies

K-12 Education Issues

- Creating a student-centered K-12 accountability model that balances academic and career pathways that prepare students for success after high school
- Develop a grading system that goes beyond a single-letter grade. MEC wants to work with leadership in the legislature to determine which part of the process may require legislative action and what should be the responsibility of the Mississippi Department of Education

Student Financial Aid

- MEC supports finding sources for increasing state financial aid for students who need additional assistance while not impacting anyone currently receiving assistance (part-time, non-traditional, and CTE students)

Workforce Development/Labor Participation

- Properly fund the Accelerate Mississippi program, such as the career coach program, to grow our focus on training for in-demand jobs in Mississippi
- Look at refining the childcare tax credit to make it easier for businesses to utilize in helping parents have access to childcare and remove the barrier to the workforce
- Consider a legislative-driven task force of lawmakers, childcare industry professionals, and business leaders to look at long-term solutions for childcare to benefit Mississippi workers

Transportation

- Find sustainable source of revenue to address infrastructure needs through the Mississippi Department of Transportation
- Continue to fund the Emergency Road and Bridge Repair Fund