

The Business Council of Alabama's (BCA) foremost purpose is to aggressively represent Alabama's business community by supporting pro-business and industry initiatives in Montgomery and in Washington D.C. BCA and its political action committee, ProgressPAC, continuously work to identify, support, and promote candidates who share a pro-growth vision for Alabama's future and are committed to strengthening the state's economy.

Below is a list of BCA's most recent legislative and political successes:

Reauthorization of Economic Incentives (The Game Plan) – Signed into Law 04/20/23

- "The Game Plan" was a package of four pieces of legislation that serve as a four-pronged approach to strengthen what has been working for our state and provide new and innovative solutions for what has not.
- The first bill, the Enhancing Alabama's Economic Progress Act, focused on the renewal of the Alabama Jobs Act and the Growing Alabama program and extended their sunset dates to 2028. The Alabama Jobs Act is the state's primary incentives platform while Growing Alabama speeds the development of shovel-ready sites.
- The second bill, the Site Evaluation and Economic Development Strategy (SEEDS) Act, allows the State Industrial Development Authority (SIDA) to facilitate the development of industry-ready sites and expands SIDA's role in the preparation of industrial sites to accelerate their creation. The SEEDS Act also allows SIDA to issue grants to stimulate the creation of sites, making Alabama competitive with its neighboring states.
- The third bill, the Innovation and Small Business Act, accelerates growth in Alabama's innovation economy and supports underrepresented businesses and enterprises in rural areas, transforming the state into a hub for technology and innovation while creating more opportunities for startups and small businesses.
- The fourth bill, the Transparency in Incentives Act, amends the Jobs Act to require the Alabama Department of Commerce to publish certain incentivized project information on its website, increasing transparency throughout the process. Transparency around this valuable information will serve as a valid and useful resource to the public and increase confidence in the process.

Red Tape Reduction Act – Signed into Law 06/09/23

- Under previous law, every business in Alabama that generated a monthly average of \$5,000 or more in sales tax was required to make estimated monthly tax payments the following year.
- This law raised the threshold to \$20,000, which reduces "red tape" for more than 3,000 small businesses across the state.

Overtime Tax Exemption – Signed into Law 06/08/23

- This legislation created a law that overtime pay received by a full-time hourly wage paid employee for hours worked above 40 in any given week are excluded from gross income and, therefore, exempt from Alabama state income tax.

Dram Shop Liability Reform – Signed into Law 04/19/23

- Previous law provided that any seller or furnisher of alcoholic beverages, such as a bar, restaurant, or retail store, could be held liable for civil damages suffered by an individual who is injured by an intoxicated customer or patron of the seller or furnisher.
- This new law creates a broader standard, with a server having to knowingly serve a visibly intoxicated person, and for that service to be the proximate cause of injury or death. This aligns with what other states require, bringing fairness to restaurant and bar owners, and will help drive down the cost of liquor liability insurance.

ProgressPAC Efforts

- Legislative success happens when the right people are elected, and that is what ProgressPAC, BCA's political arm, is all about.
- BCA's ProgressPAC has seen consistent success in its endorsements in legislative, constitutional, and judicial races.
- In the 2022 election cycle, 124 out of 126 or 98% of the candidates supported by ProgressPAC at the state level were elected to office.
- At the federal level, all eight BCA-endorsed candidates were victorious in the general election. Those candidates include two new members of Alabama's delegation: Senator Katie Britt (R-AL-Montgomery) and Congressman Dale Strong (R-AL02)
- 2022 BCA-Endorsed Federal Winners:
 - U.S. Senate – Katie Britt, Congressional District 1 – Jerry Carl, Congressional District 2 – Barry Moore, Congressional District 3 – Mike Rogers, Congressional District 4 – Robert Aderholt, Congressional District 5 – Dale Strong, Congressional District 6 – Gary Palmer, Congressional District 7 – Terri Sewell
- 2022 BCA-Endorsed Statewide Winners:
 - Governor – Kay Ivey, Lt. Governor – Will Ainsworth, Attorney General – Steve Marshall, Secretary of State – Wes Allen, State Treasurer – Young Boozer, Commissioner of Agriculture – Rick Pate, Supreme Court – Place 5 – Greg Cook, Supreme Court – Place 6 – Kelli Wise