

**BUSINESS
ADVOCATE**

VOLUME 17 ISSUE 3

A publication of the
Business Council of Alabama



**BCA LEADS DURING
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

BCA IS THE VOICE FOR ALABAMA BUSINESS. LEARN MORE AT BCATODAY.ORG



BCA LEADS DURING 2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The start of a new legislative session signals a return to Montgomery, as lawmakers convene for 30 legislative days to debate and pass policies that shape Alabama's business climate and economic future. With so much at stake, the Business Council of Alabama (BCA) has pulled its seat up to the table to ensure the state's business community remains a strong, consistent voice throughout the 2026 legislative session.

That work began on January 14, when BCA kicked off the session with its annual Legislative Reception at Alley Station in Montgomery—one of the most anticipated events of the year for policymakers and business leaders alike.

Governor Kay Ivey, Lt. Governor Will

Ainsworth, Speaker Nathaniel Ledbetter, Senate President Pro Tem Garlan Gudger, members of House and Senate leadership, and BCA-endorsed candidates joined BCA's Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and members for the evening. In all, more than 500 business leaders, legislators, and public officials gathered under one roof to connect, collaborate, and begin the work of the session.

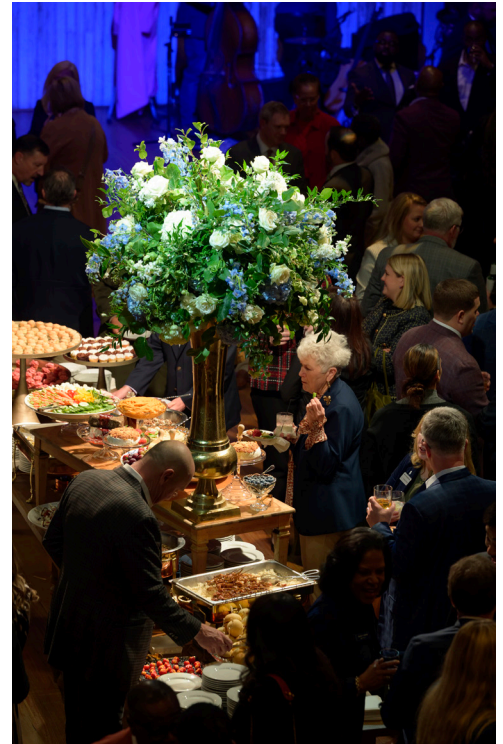
The reception served as a valuable forum for candid conversations, allowing business and policy leaders to discuss challenges, explore opportunities, and share perspectives on policies that support economic growth and development.

But BCA's advocacy does not begin—or end—with a single event. Throughout the session, BCA actively represents its members by championing pro-

business initiatives and standing firm against legislation that could threaten Alabama's economic competitiveness and long-term growth.

That advocacy is reinforced each week through BCA's Tuesday Morning Issues Briefings, a long-standing tradition that has become a cornerstone of the legislative session.

Each Tuesday morning, as legislators arrive in Montgomery to begin the legislative week, government affairs professionals, lawmakers, and business leaders pack into 2 North Jackson Street for what has become must-attend programming during the session. The briefings offer a unique opportunity to hear directly from decision-makers at the highest levels of state government, ask questions, and engage in thoughtful dialogue before committee meetings and floor sessions begin.



For many attendees, the Tuesday Morning Issues Briefings serve as the unofficial kickoff to the legislative week. There is no other weekly event in Montgomery quite like it—no other forum that consistently brings together top state leaders, lawmakers, and members of the business community in one room, at the same time, every week, for substantive and candid conversations about policy and economic priorities.

Governor Kay Ivey opened the 2026 briefing series with a clear call to action, urging leaders to maintain the state’s momentum. “I challenge each of you to join me in maintaining our forward momentum,” she said. “Let’s not waste a moment; let’s get to work.”

In 2026, BCA further elevated the series by shifting away from traditional stump speeches and leaning into moderated

conversations that prioritize insight over talking points. The result has been more meaningful dialogue, deeper discussion of complex issues, and a clearer understanding of how legislative decisions intersect with Alabama’s economic growth and workforce needs.

Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth joined the series alongside his Chief of Staff, Connie Rowe, as the two discussed Alabama’s next economic opportunities and emphasized the importance of building on the momentum that has positioned the state as the workforce engine of the Southeast.

Speaker Nathaniel Ledbetter and Rep. Joe Lovvorn, Chairman of the House Rules Committee, reflected on the Legislature’s progress over the past four years, the value of steady leadership during the final year of the quadrennium,

and what continued stability means for Alabama’s employers and investors.

Senate President Pro Tem Garlan Gudger participated in a conversation with Alison Ross of Huntsville Hospital System, a BCA member, highlighting how meaningful progress is achieved through strong communication and collaboration between lawmakers and business leaders working toward shared goals.

Senator Arthur Orr and Representative Danny Garrett, the chairs responsible for crafting Alabama’s education budgets, offered insight into the fiscal decisions that directly impact Alabama’s workforce and future growth.



BCA livestreams its Tuesday Morning Issues Briefings on its Facebook page, @BusinessCouncilofAlabama, every Tuesday at 9 a.m. during the legislative session, allowing business leaders and stakeholders across the state to stay informed and engaged. Viewers can continue to watch the remaining 2026 Tuesday Morning Issues Briefings live via Facebook Live.

As the session unfolds, the conversations that begin at receptions and briefing tables carry forward into committee rooms and floor debates. BCA's presence in Montgomery is both intentional and ongoing as it continues to recognize the daily challenges Alabama businesses face and serve as a trusted resource for proactive, solutions-oriented legislative engagement.



The Business Advocate is published by the Business Council of Alabama, a non-partisan, statewide business association representing the interests and concerns of nearly 1 million working Alabamians through its member companies and its partnership with the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama. For more information on the Business Council of Alabama, please contact us at (334) 834-6000 or visit us online at bcatoday.org.