

# BUSINESS ADVOCATE

The Business Council of Alabama (BCA) was formed in 1985, and has worked tirelessly for the last 35 years to ensure that businesses of all shapes and sizes have every opportunity to grow and flourish in Alabama.

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THE BCA IS ALABAMA'S STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, LEARN MORE AT [BCATODAY.ORG](http://BCATODAY.ORG)

## THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE LAST 35 YEARS ACT AS INSPIRATION FOR BCA'S CONTINUED RESOLVE TO ENSURE THE BEST ENVIRONMENT FOR ALABAMA'S BUSINESSES



November marked a major milestone for the state of Alabama – and not just because we celebrated our sacred right to vote. Sunday, November 1, marked the 35th anniversary of the formation of the Business Council of Alabama (BCA).

Formed in 1985 through the consolidation of the Alabama Chamber of Commerce and the Associated Industries of Alabama, BCA has since worked diligently to foster a “Sweet Home for Business” in our great state.

BCA, over time and to this day, has helped spearhead crucial, pro-growth reforms that have led to unprecedented economic wins for Alabama job creators, workers and families. For 35 years, BCA has worked tirelessly to ensure that businesses, regardless of size, have every opportunity to grow and flourish in our state.

Throughout the years, many incredible individuals have contributed to the mission and success of BCA. John Mazyck, of The Frazer Lanier Company and 2020

BCA Chairman said, “For 35 years, BCA has been the leader in creating Alabama’s pro-business environment. BCA is an increasingly big tent under which businesses of all sizes can gather in pursuit of a better, more prosperous Alabama.

***“IT IS TRULY THE FLAGSHIP ASSOCIATION  
WITHIN ALABAMA...AND THE BOARD’S  
ABILITY TO GET THINGS ACCOMPLISHED IS  
UNPARALLELED.” – KEVIN SAVOY, GREAT SOUTHERN WOOD PRESERVING***

While this year has been unlike any other, BCA has remained steadfast in its mission. I’m honored to play a role in the incredible work done by BCA and of all we have been able to accomplish for businesses in our state.”

From championing pro-jobs initiatives and regulatory policies to striving to put Alabama on the cutting-edge of innovation and infrastructure, BCA has helped pave the way for enhanced opportunity for the Alabamians of today and tomorrow.

“I’ve been involved with many associations throughout the state, but I consider my involvement with BCA to be my highest honor. It is truly the flagship association within Alabama. The caliber of the staff that we work with is incredible, and the Board’s ability to get things accomplished is unparalleled,”



said Kevin Savoy of Great Southern Wood Preserving and member of BCA’s Executive Committee.

However, the importance of BCA and its members to our state has perhaps never been magnified more than in the present.

Over the last six months, BCA has provided countless resources, seeking to give some clarity in the uncertainty of this season. On April 9, BCA presented the Small Business Exchange on Alabama Public Television designed to help those walking through the process of applying for federal stimulus funding under the CARES Act. SBE allowed small businesses the opportunity to speak to more than 50 subject matter experts from the state’s largest law firms, CPA firms, and banks on a variety of topics.

As an engaged member of Governor Ivey’s Coronavirus Task Force, BCA tirelessly advocated on behalf of the businesses of our state to ensure they stayed informed as new developments and information came available throughout the pandemic. Working with Governor Ivey and her team, BCA was instrumental in securing liability protection for businesses and the healthcare community by means of an executive order. This allowed



businesses to safely and responsibly reopen their doors without the unnecessary threat of lawsuits at the forefront of their minds. Because of BCA and their partners, Alabama was the first state in the nation to secure such a win for business.

As an influential part of the Alabama Small Business Commission’s Emergency Task Force, Reopen Alabama Responsibly subcommittee, BCA worked alongside the Lt. Governor, other elected officials, and members of the business community to advocate on businesses behalf, ensuring they could reopen their doors in the safest way possible.

On August 26-27, BCA hosted Engage Alabama, a virtual business summit free to all Alabamians. Bringing together more than 40 elected officials, industry leaders, and experts, the two-day summit was filled with almost 15 different sessions focused on doing business in the current climate.

By providing resources, hosting webinars, and simply being a listening ear, BCA has served as the business community’s best advocate. Whatever they may face, BCA has been there every step of the way.

BCA has been at the forefront of relentless advocacy efforts on behalf of Alabama businesses throughout this pandemic, from

### LEFT PAGE

*BCA’s Governmental Affairs team hosts live briefings at the Business Center of Alabama where invited Legislators update attendees on the progress of the legislative session.*

### THIS PAGE

*Left: John Mazyck of The Frazer Lanier Company, and 2020 BCA Chairman  
Right: BCA hosted Engage Alabama, a virtual business summit free to all Alabamians.*

### NEXT PAGE

*In partnership with APT, BCA hosted the Small Businesses Exchange, to help small businesses working through the process of applying for federal stimulus funding.*



mom-and-pop operations to our state's largest employers. And, just as BCA's history has proven, we are stronger together – and recovery will take all of us, working hand-in-hand, side-by-side.

"I am ecstatic to celebrate BCA's 35 year legacy and to have the honor to lead the team that is carrying it forward," said Katie Boyd Britt, president and CEO of BCA. "Our organization would not be what it is without the contributions from countless individuals – from former staffers to current board members and our more than 2500 member businesses – who have helped shape BCA into the incredible organization it is."

The association has flourished through the strong support of its membership and strategic, mutually beneficial partnerships, such as BCA's longtime formal relationship with the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama and the continued relationship with the Alabama

Self-Insured Workers Compensation Fund. BCA is also the exclusive Alabama affiliate of the National Association of Manufacturers and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Rick Roden, of the Mountain Lakes Chamber and member of the BCA Board of Directors, said, "I got involved with the Business Council of Alabama when The Partnership was formed between BCA and the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama. I have had the privilege of serving on the BCA Board for many years and chairing the Small Business Committee. Probably one of my most memorable times was joining forces with

all the Chambers in Alabama to work on the Alliance for Alabama's Infrastructure. With everyone working together, we were able to move our state forward and get a highway bill passed that will make a difference in Alabama for many years to come."

Representing nearly one million hard-working Alabamians, BCA could not be prouder to be the voice for Alabama business from Goat Hill to Capitol Hill. BCA is able to do what it does because of its many incredible members.

This 35th anniversary commemorates our shared successes; but, even more importantly, this landmark represents a pledge that the best is yet to come for Alabama. **BA**

*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 (800) 665-9647 or visit us online at [bcatoday.org](http://bcatoday.org).*