

2026

Legislative Agenda



Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce

ADVOCACY

About Us

The Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce is an active membership organization **representing over 1,200 businesses and organizations** in the Rochester region. As the largest Chamber in Minnesota outside of the Twin Cities, we provide workforce resources, business advocacy, and connections to support and enhance the success of area employers.

We are committed to convening area leaders in industry, government, and more to create opportunities for talent and employers to excel in the Rochester region.

The Chamber serves as the non-partisan voice of business at all levels of government. Through our advocacy efforts, we ensure that the interests of the business community are represented throughout the policymaking process.

Advocacy Team

Jonathon Krull, Senior Director,
Public Affairs & Leadership
Development
jkrull@rochestermnchamber.com

Ryan Parsons, President
rparsons@rochestermnchamber.com

Legislative Priorities

Key Priorities

- **Support legislative efforts that positively impact talent attraction, retention, and training needs to meet the evolving workforce needs of the Rochester region.**
- **Support legislative efforts that encourage development, promote sustainability, and enhance the Rochester region through investments in infrastructure and projects that positively impact the regional business community.**

Workforce

- Support legislation that reduces barriers to employment and addresses workforce gaps through licensure reform in high-demand careers (Nurse Licensure Compact).
- Promote the development of workforce programs and initiatives that develop career pathways, encourage partnerships between industry and education, and increase awareness of high-demand job opportunities.
- Advocate for legislation that addresses business concerns relating to existing mandates (Paid Family and Medical Leave) through modifications that support business growth and operational sustainability.

Infrastructure

- Support Olmsted County and the City of Byron's request for state bonding funds to enhance safety and mobility along the Highway 14 corridor through the construction of interchanges on TH14 at CSAH 3 and CSAH 5, supporting regional development along the TH14 corridor.
- Support the City of Rochester's request for state bonding funds to expand sewer and water pipe capacity which would support the development of 1,000 acres for housing.
- Address regional housing needs through the development and expansion of initiatives and resources, while advocating for balanced regulations that encourage development.

General Business

- Support legislative efforts to enhance grid reliability, achieve sustainability goals, and strengthen baseload power capacity through the removal of the nuclear moratorium.
- Encourage effective economic development through tax reform, support of programs and incentives, and a streamlined permitting process that enables investment, drives business growth, and makes Minnesota competitive in business attraction and retention.