2017 POLICY AGENDA
PRIORITIES

Presented in alphabetical order by committee

• AGRICULTURE and FOOD PROCESSING: ACI supports preserving the integrity of the workers’ compensation system to ensure quick and efficient delivery of benefits to injured workers, to maximize medical rehabilitation and return-to-work outcomes at a fair cost to the employers, which will also foster business investment and job creation.

• ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: ACI supports the full and increased investment in strategic economic development programs such as JtIP and LEDA, as well as enhancing the tools available to incentivize business investment and job creation.

• EDUCATION and WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: ACI supports a statewide plan that directs and measures the efforts of public colleges and universities, to increase educational attainment and expand research and economic development efforts in communities across the state.

• ENERGY and EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES: ACI supports policies that provide for the commercially viable development of energy infrastructure, including roads, oil and natural gas pipelines, electric transmission lines, energy storage, and electric and natural gas distribution systems that will benefit end-use markets, including such things as natural gas and electric vehicles and smart-grid technologies.

• ENTREPRENEURSHIP: ACI supports the incorporation of computer science and computational thinking into New Mexico standards of learning.

• ENVIRONMENT: ACI supports the elimination of the state Total Suspended Particulate (TSP) standard and re-drafting of the state air quality regulations consistent with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, to make New Mexico competitive with other jurisdictions and alleviate unnecessary compliance costs.

• HEALTHCARE: ACI supports the maximization of federal funds through actions such as fully funding the state Medicaid program and Safety Net Care Pool.

• LEGAL REFORM: ACI supports forum shopping limitations on choosing courts for filing of litigation in a jurisdiction perceived to be more favorable to the plaintiff.

• REGULATORY and GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY: ACI supports the expansion of the Administrative Hearing Office to conduct hearings on administrative adjudicatory actions rising from all state agencies using its own qualified, professional, objective and independent hearing officers or administrative law judges.

• TAXATION: ACI supports the evaluation of the entire state tax code for recommendations to create a stable revenue source without a disproportionate burden on particular industries, individuals or employers and in conjunction with a statewide economic development plan.

ACI opposes the use of mandatory unitary combined reporting.

• WATER and LAND USE: ACI supports the creation of public-private partnerships to develop water infrastructure that will provide public benefits, such as economical infrastructure project delivery and water conservation.

• WORKPLACE ISSUES: ACI supports the statewide uniformity of employment laws, such as paid- or unpaid-leave mandates, wage or fringe benefit mandates, and scheduling mandates, in order to provide a stable environment for employers and promote economic development.
New Mexico’s near-term prosperity and long-term growth depend on a vibrant private sector. No advocate can speak better on the needs of the private sector than the private sector, which is why ACI is proud to be the voice of New Mexico business.

Twice each year, policy committees—comprised entirely of representatives of ACI member businesses—convene to update ACI’s policy positions across a wide array of industries and issues. ACI’s policy agenda informs ACI’s priorities during each legislative session.