



- 2020 Policy Priorities –

Guiding Principles for setting the Chamber's Policy Agenda:

- *Maintain and grow opportunities for Kauai businesses*
- *Reduce the cost of doing business*
- *Manage growth and support infrastructure improvements so that the quality of life for the people of Kauai is not threatened and the visitor experience is optimized*
- *Increase the qualified workforce*
- *Improve the quality of life for all who live and work on Kauai*

Economic Growth and Diversification: Promote and support policies that incentivize innovation and entrepreneurship as a means of achieving economic growth and diversification through a competitive business environment

- **Agriculture:** Support the expansion of diversified agriculture on Kauai through adoption of sensible land-use policy and preventing excessive regulatory and financial burdens that interfere with the ability of farmers to succeed
- **Film:** Support financial incentives, policies and the development of local resources that will attract film productions that benefit Kauai
- **Military/PMRF:** Advocate for the continued viability of the Pacific Missile Range Facility's research and testing operations on Kauai
- **Tourism:** Recognizing the importance of tourism to our economy and the importance of managing the industry for the benefit of all, the Chamber will strongly support and encourage the implementation of the Kauai Tourism Strategic Plan (2019-2021) "Refocusing Tourism to Find Balance"

Environmental Stewardship: Support legislation that recognizes that environmental quality and economic development are not mutually exclusive goals and that creates a balance to ensure businesses have the ability to grow and remain competitive

- **Clean Energy:** Support policies that encourage the development of reliable sources of affordable and diverse renewable energy
- **Water:** Ensure access to and encourage responsible use of Kauai's water resources to meet the social, environmental and economic needs of our community in accordance with the State of Hawaii Water Code

Promote a thriving economy: Work to roll back and/or prevent excessive regulatory and financial burdens that interfere with the ability of companies to succeed; promote policies that encourage appropriate economic expansion and job creation

- Education and Workforce Development: Support educational, employment and training systems driven by the needs of employers based on accurate and timely local labor market data
- Land Use/Housing: Support maintaining and improving infrastructure, housing affordability and land uses which promote business and economic development in accordance with the County of Kauai General Plan
- Regulatory Reform: Promote the creation of reasonable, fair, cost-effective, fiscally and technically sound, streamlined and simplified regulatory environment that is business-friendly and does not put Kauai businesses at a competitive disadvantage
- Taxes including Transient Accommodations Tax (TAT): Advance tax policies that encourage job creation, attract capital investment and facilitate Kauai's ability to attract and retain businesses; advocate for an appropriate share of the TAT to be allocated to the counties
- Transportation/Roads/Infrastructure: Support further investments into Kauai's infrastructure in partnership with the private sector and by securing the County's fair share of state and federal allocations; Promote a well-maintained community infrastructure supporting economic expansion, and the efficient movement of people, goods and services

Health and Safety: Support legislation and reasonable budgetary proposals that enhance the health and safety of Kauai's residents and the visitor population

- Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness: Support a strong federal, state, and county public safety emergency response system including police, fire, medical treatment and disaster preparedness components that enhance the safety of residents and workers and the preservation of life and property
 - Healthcare: Advocate for policies that improve health outcomes and experiences while controlling and reducing the cost of care.
-