Whys and Hows of Working with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Your State and Local Chambers

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What is the U.S. Chamber of Commerce?

- **An Advocacy Organization**
  - Over 100 years old
  - Develop and implement policy on major issues affecting business
  - More than 1,500 representatives from member corporations, trade associations, organizations, state & local chambers, and the academic community serve on committees, subcommittees, task forces, and councils
Our Mission: Strengthen U.S. Economic Competitiveness

• 10 Key Challenges

– A Competitive Workforce
– Capital Markets
– Energy
– Healthcare
– Innovation
– International Trade & Investment
– Legal Reform
– Regulatory Reform
– Reliable and Secure Infrastructure
– Tax & Entitlement Reform
Difference Between U.S. Chamber & State or Local Chambers?

- **Focus**
  
  - All Chambers can focus on all levels of government, HOWEVER
    - U.S. Chamber focuses on national issues at the federal level
    - State Chambers tend to focus on state issues
    - Local Chambers tend to focus on local issues

- **Organization**
  
  - U.S. Chamber of Commerce is NOT a governing body or regulatory agency
  
  - U.S. Chamber does NOT have a say in how state or local chambers run themselves

  - Any community can organize and support a chamber
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Committee of 100 (CCC100)

- Elite Group of State & Local Chamber Executives
  - Provide perspectives of state & local chambers and their members to the U.S. Chamber
  - Identify emerging issues that will impact state & local chambers and their members
  - Advise the U.S. Chamber on programs and services for state & local chambers and their members
  - Provide feedback on policy-related issues
The $1 Million Question:

• How can you engage with the:
  – U.S. Chamber?
    • Washington, DC offices
    • Regional Offices
      (see slide 7 for regions & phone numbers)
  – State Chamber?
  – Local Chambers?
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Regional Offices

- **Eastern Region**
  Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia
  Phone: (401) 831-8885

- **Great Lakes Region**
  Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania
  Phone: (312) 983-7113

- **Midwest Region**
  Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin
  Phone: (952) 832-9151

- **Northwest Region**
  Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming
  Phone: (425) 774-8094

- **Southeastern Region**
  Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Mississippi
  Phone: (770) 951-8864

- **Southwest & South Central Region**
  Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas
  Phone: (972)-387-1099 x 4244

- **Western Region**
  Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah
  Phone: (818) 884-0702
Questions?

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