

**2018 Greater Albuquerque Chamber Legislative Agenda**  
**Boosting the Economy, Strengthening Education and Busting Crime**  
**53<sup>rd</sup> Legislature, Second Session**

**FY19 BUDGET/ FY19 CAPITAL BUDGET**

**SUPPORT**

- Projection of \$330 million of “new money” prioritized to fund programs that boost the economy, strengthen education and bust crime.
- Reserves of about 10%
- Provide across the board salary increases for all state employees of at least 1% and additional salary increases for the staff in the judiciary, state police, correctional facilities and teachers.
- Focus capital spending on infrastructure (roads, water, buildings, etc.), i.e. large-scale projects locals cannot afford themselves. Projected available capital is \$142 million from severance tax bonds and \$165 million from GO (general obligation) bonds.
- Capital Outlay Reform legislation driven by the Legislature and the Governor, which is transparent, objective and primarily focuses on large-scale infrastructure projects

**OPPOSE**

- Any reduction of existing economic development incentives
- Any use of Permanent Fund or other fund dollars for purposes not intended

**ECONOMY**

**SUPPORT**

- Comprehensive tax reform that lowers the GRT, broadens the tax base, eliminates some egregious pyramiding issues for business, stabilizes state revenue streams and encourages growth
- Closing the loophole which would then subject remote sales to Gross Receipts Tax (GRT)
- Technology Research Collaborative - \$1 million
- Eliminate the lodger’s tax exemption on rental properties such as Airbnb
- Partial repeal of prevailing wage by changing thresholds for some projects
- Amending the Worker’s Compensation Act to reduce the quarterly workers’ compensation assessment fee imposed on employees
- Require the Worker’s Compensation Administration Commission to conduct an independent study in 2018 and every 5 years thereafter to review other states workers’ compensation trends and develop recommendations for New Mexico.
- Increase in Tourism Department’s budget by \$3.5 million
- JTIP funding at \$12 million within the operating budget of the Economic Development Department
- Provide LEDA funding at \$10 million in order to maintain a \$50 million dollar fund within the operating budget of the Economic Development Department.
- Enhanced Enterprise Zones
- Wireless Consumer Advanced Infrastructure Investment Act
- Support the Energy Redevelopment Bond Act as financing tool to reduce costs to customers affected by retirement of a coal plant.
- Funding request for Bioscience Authority
- Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact
- Support request for \$350,000 Main Street Program general fund appropriation and \$1 million in Capital Outlay.

**OPPOSE**

- Increasing minimum wage with a constitutional amendment
- Legalizing marijuana with a constitutional amendment

## **EDUCATION**

### **SUPPORT**

- Reading Success Act
- Adjunct instructors licensure
- Support expansion of anti-truancy programs and establish intervention and suspension of driver's license or permit for habitually truant high school students.
- Executive recommendation for "Below the Line" funding of \$100 million
- Background checks for teachers, leaders and support staff
- Differentiated compensation for exemplary teachers
- Establish minimum percentages that New Mexico school districts must commit to classroom spending by reducing administrative expenditures.
- Charter schools as an option for students

### **OPPOSE**

- Cuts in "Below the Line" funding
- Permanent Funds distribution for early childhood by statute or constitutional amendment

## **CRIME**

### **SUPPORT**

- Second Judicial District Attorney's Office request for a \$5 million increase in its base budget and sufficient funding for a Crime Strategies Unit at an appropriate level.
- Support the agency requests for the 13 District Attorneys in New Mexico which total approximately \$5.4 million
- New Mexico Judicial Branch request for a 9.6% (\$17.5 million) increase in its base budget
- CYFD request of \$25 million increase for the state's child care assistance program that provides child care for low-income families
- "Return to Work" for police officers
- "Stay at Work" for police officers
- Video conferencing testimony in driver's license revocation hearings
- Increased penalty for repeat (4+) DWI offenders and DWI habitual offender sentencing
- Expand DWI laws to include "drugged driving"
- Increase the penalty for a felon in possession of a firearm
- Increase the penalty for battery on a CYFD employee
- Increased penalty for intentional child abuse resulting in death
- Increased penalty for criminal sexual penetration and contact involving a child
- Increased penalties that distinguish between negligent versus intentional child abuse; increased penalties for intentional abuse
- Increased penalties for electronic communication of obscene images to a child
- Require Auto recyclers to report electronically, the sales and purchases of motor vehicles within 48 hours.
- Add felony for crimes committed while on parole or probation
- Allow dual sentencing of youthful offenders for violent crimes.
- DWI/DUID Blood Test Requirements

### **OPPOSE**

- Repealing or replacing the constitutional amendment passed by New Mexico voters regarding pre-trial release and detention. Support the Supreme Court supervising the new rules, training judges on its use, creating appropriate administrative infrastructure and re-evaluation of it prior to the next 60-day legislative session. However, the Chamber will evaluate any legislation introduced which modifies the rules of the CA to ensure that dangerous criminals are not on our streets.

### **Questions? Call:**

Meg Meister, Chair of the Board—264-8754  
Terri L. Cole, President/CEO—239-6553  
Pat Vincent-Collawn, Chair, Public Safety Bold Issues Group (BIG)—241-2700  
Jeremiah Ritchie, Legislative Committee—235-2513  
Tom Antram, Immediate Past Chairman—681-9826

Sherman McCorkle, Vice Chair, Bold Issues Group (BIG)—235-8719  
JD Bullington, Lobbyist—363-1035  
Jacque Christensen, Lobbyist—259-5304  
Marc Christensen, Lobbyist—554-5715

