



2023 Economic Development Legislative Priorities

Product Development and Site Readiness

- Maximize business recruitment and expansion in North Carolina by supporting site development needs. NCEDA seeks \$350 million for a competitively awarded product development revolving fund to help communities finance site analysis, preparation, and land acquisition.
- Boost support for current efforts to improve existing industrial and business properties through a \$20 million recurring appropriation for the NC Department of Commerce's Building Re-use Grant programs.

Workforce Innovation

- Correct North Carolina's workforce development disadvantage by approving NCCCS's request for salary alignment with neighboring states: continuing the three-year salary increase proposal, 3.5% in FY 2023-24 and 3.5% in FY 2024-25.
- Support greater career planning, apprenticeships, and an expansion of Career Coaches.
- Support drop-out age increase to 18 and scholarships for short-term training credentials.
- Address deficiencies in North Carolina's labor market by studying possible amendments to the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program that offer employers the flexibility to temporarily reduce work hours (i.e., "short-term compensation") in lieu of complete worker separation, as well as other measures to maximize the state's workforce assets.

Enhancing Our Competitive Posture

- Support additional reforms to the franchise tax, which detract from tangible investments in North Carolina.
- Improve the impact of the One North Carolina program by increasing the employment ceiling for Tier 3 counties covered under G.S. 143B-437.08 to 140,000.
- Embrace opportunities to maximize the effectiveness of the One North Carolina program as a project-closing tool by studying the program's administrative guidelines, funding levels and other limitations.