



## **Government Affairs Committee**

Every business, no matter how large or small, is affected daily by state, federal and local government policy decisions, regulations, laws, and long-range planning. Local representatives to these governmental bodies want to have a strong relationship with the people they serve. Therefore, businesses and the organizations that represent them (such as the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce and Industry) have a duty to express their opinions and interests on matters that affect their community. Whether in Washington DC, the state capitol or town hall, the opinions of people are the most important influences on their representative's decisions.

The Government Affairs Committee of the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce and Industry is committed to reviewing, developing, and supporting issues that promote a positive, pro-active economic and business environment to create an enhanced quality of life for the residents of Shelby County. The chamber believes that laws and regulations should serve the public without acting as an impairment to business development and growth. The committee's purpose is to provide our elected officials with information regarding regulations and policies that will improve the ability of a business to compete in the worldwide economy, continue to generate income and jobs that enhance Shelby County, and avoid unintended consequences that negatively impact the Shelby County business community.

### Government Affairs Committee Objectives

- Work with the Chamber to review local, state, and federal issues that affect business
- Build and influence relationships/partnerships with federal and state legislators, city councilmen, school board members and county supervisors.
- To provide the Shelby County community with access to their elected officials through events such as legislative receptions, "Meet the Candidate" and "Candidate Debate" nights, host legislative coffees while the Iowa Legislature is in session.
- Review current laws and regulations along with submitted bill drafts to determine the impact on Shelby County's Business Community.
- Communicate the recommendation of the Government Affairs Committee to the Chamber Board for approval.
- Represent Chamber members at public forums and work with public leaders to create and develop pro-active legislation and policies.
- Educate and inform chamber members of relevant issues researched and positions taken if applicable.
- Examine from a legislative standpoint opportunities as well as unintended consequences created by new laws and regulations that impact the issues of continuing concern in Shelby County:
  - Economic Development, Education and Workforce Development, Health Care, Elder Care, Taxation, Transportation, Infrastructure, and Community Development.