

Building a better transportation network:

Georgians will have the opportunity to vote in August 2012 on a one-cent regional sales tax to address critical issues of congestion and economic development. Up to \$20 billion could be raised over 10 years - leveraging up to **425,000 new jobs** and **\$480 billion in investment**.

Ensuring balanced taxation: To compete for jobs with other states and nations while preserving Georgia's low cost of doing business, the state must take a comprehensive look at its tax code and the **\$17 billion** that it generates annually. The Chamber is leading the Special Council on Tax Reform and Fairness created by the legislature to tackle this important objective.



Preventing health care cost hikes: The Chamber helped defeat attempts to cut Medicaid reimbursement rates for doctors and hospitals by more than **\$1 billion** – a cost that would ultimately pass to Georgians with private insurance and their employers. Legislation requiring health plans to cover costly treatments and therapies was also defeated.

Creating and retaining jobs: The Chamber secured more than **\$325 million in new tax relief** to attract and preserve corporate headquarters; manufacturing, distribution, research and development, retail and service businesses; and early-stage firms. These incentives will help create high-paying jobs in a range of industries to speed Georgia's recovery.



Enhancing legal protections for employers: Three Chamber-supported bills will grant employers the same legal protections against identity theft that individuals already enjoy; give employers firmer legal footing in contract disputes with ex-employees; and improve the enforcement of metals theft, which costs businesses more than **\$10 million a year**.

Conserving and sustaining water supplies: The Chamber played an integral role in the comprehensive water conservation law enacted in the wake of a federal court decision limiting Georgia's use of the water within its own borders. The ruling could deprive Georgia of 250 million gallons of water a day – an impact of up to **\$39 billion a year**.



Over \$1.5 billion* in legislative return on investment
during 2009 and 2010 alone

(*number based on the impact of broad-based legislation that can be quantified)