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A 2021-22 ECONOMIC RECOVERY & COMPETITIVENESS AGENDA

Mike Boyle

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT &
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2021 CHAIR – NE CHAMBER

Welcome

Fulfilling The NE Chamber Mission

Our Mission & Vision

The mission of the NE Chamber is to promote and protect Nebraska's free enterprise system by ensuring a competitive business climate, economic growth and greater prosperity for all Nebraskans.

We are a trusted partner to our members.

We deliver market and workforce growth, as well as tax, legislative, and regulatory solutions that address the challenges of owning and growing a modern-day business.

Who We Are

Our members are current and future corporate citizens and main street businesses.

They hire local people, invest, buy goods and services, pay taxes that support local schools and government, donate to charity and encourage volunteerism.

They operate here because Nebraska offers a good quality of life, access to national transportation networks, a growth-oriented business climate, a skilled and hardworking workforce, a low cost of living, great schools, and more.

Member Support For Two-Track Focus In 2021 & 2022

Keeping People Safe & Business Open



Bold Steps For Economic Recovery



Bryan Slone

PRESIDENT
NE CHAMBER

Bold Public Policy

A Critical Moment That Matters For Nebraska

- **Challenges**

- Population Growth & Age
- Productivity & Technology
- Sustaining Key Industry Growth
- Aging Infrastructures

- **Opportunities**

- Quality of Life Advantages
- Remote Workplace Trends
- Supply Chain Advantages
- Innovation/Technology Potential
- Key Industry Sectors



Blueprint Nebraska – An Economic Game Plan

2030 Goals

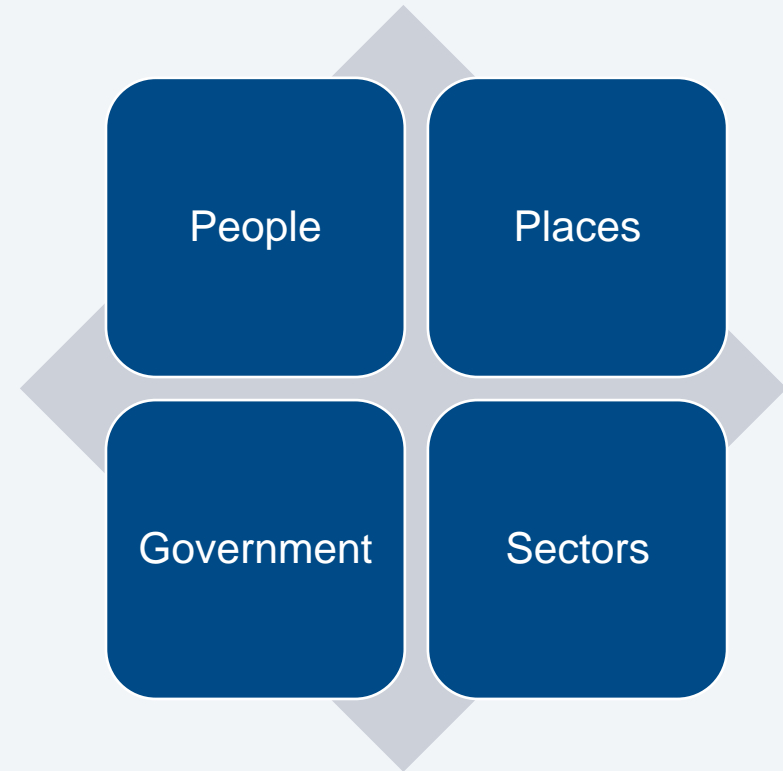
25,000 additional jobs

Top 3 places to live

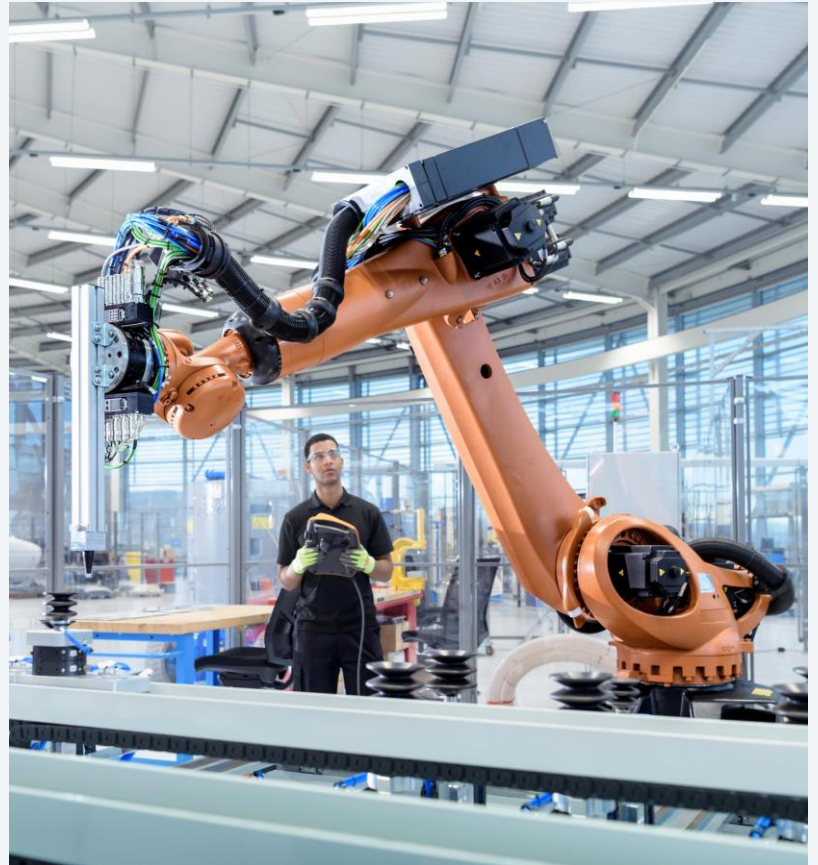
43,000 additional 18- to 34-year-olds

\$15,000 additional median annual income

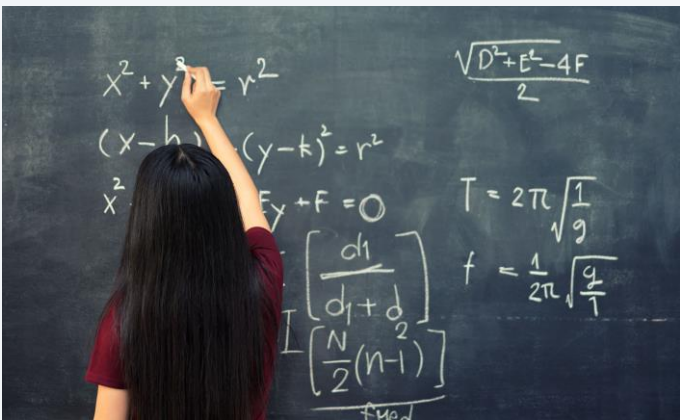
\$200 million/year additional research & development



15 Specific Statewide Initiatives Developed
By Over 7,000 Participants Statewide!



Pandemic Recovery Creates Urgency



One Team: New Partnerships & Processes

Kristen Hassebrook

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
LEGISLATION & POLICY
NE CHAMBER

2021 – 2022
Priorities For
Economic Recovery
& Growth



	Develop Workforce	Enhance Communities	Modernize Government	Grow the Economy
N E C H A M B E R R E C O V E R Y	Break down regulatory barriers and burdens to accessing existing workforce training resources. Diversify public/private partnerships to provide customized job solutions and greater exposure to career opportunities.	Develop industry consensus around a comprehensive plan for the rapid deployment of ubiquitous broadband to support modern agriculture, transportation and manufacturing in rural Nebraska.	Modernize and expand Nebraska's research and development tax credit regime.	Create programs, grants and incentives to rebuild industries hard-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, including hospitality, travel and entertainment.
	Enact state and federal business incentives and adapt regulatory and tax structures to encourage investment in affordable, quality childcare capacity.	Complete key infrastructure projects, such as four-lane highways from Norfolk and Columbus to Omaha.	Expand public support and redesign private incentives for entrepreneurial investment and startups.	Enact federal and state legislation to provide temporary, targeted liability protections related to COVID-19 for businesses, nonprofits, educational institutions and healthcare workers and facilities.
	Unify state branding and marketing within key public and private institutions. Create a statewide social media campaign with broad support among state stakeholders.	Modify and expand state and local investment in quality-of-life amenities and vibrant community endeavors.	Establish a permanent funding mechanism to help educators track educational and career outcomes.	Develop a state program for attracting the re-domestication of foreign supply chains to the state, and targeted incentives for transportation and logistics, pharmaceutical and health care.
	Create a tax structure that promotes the relocation of remote workers to the state.		Broaden metrics for the evaluation of K-12 education to include outcomes in the form of subsequent employment, qualified trade certifications, 2-year and 4-year post-secondary degrees, and military service.	Develop a business-to-business (B2B) platform that facilitates communication and networking among Nebraska manufacturers to rapidly expand in-state supply chains and customer bases.
			Build collaboration between K-12, the private sector, and post-secondary institutions to identify career-based, experiential learning opportunities and build efficiency.	Enact a discretionary incentive or deal-closing fund to recruit and retain jobs, business and investment.



	Develop Workforce	Enhance Communities	Modernize Government	Grow the Economy
B L U E P R I N T N E B R A S K A	Unify and scale innovative workforce programs and resources statewide to create a model public-private partnership approach in the nation.	Support targeted investments by communities throughout the state in arts, entertainment, recreation and community redevelopment.	Modernize Nebraska's overall tax structure to enhance competitiveness and enhance economic growth.	Diversify, expand and improve the productivity of the state's agribusiness industry, with a focus on research, technology and food processing and bio-based manufacturing.
	Revolutionize education from early childhood through post-secondary, leveraging a longitudinal data system and public-private collaboration. Identify educational funding mechanisms to create a vibrant lifelong learning model.	Deliver last-mile broadband in rural areas and make Nebraska a national model for rapid 5G network scale-up.	Enhance government efficiency by continuing to transform, restructure, and digitize the provision of state and local government services.	Build a pipeline of tech founders and innovators. Connect them to venture capital and high-value research and development in entrepreneurship zones, innovation hubs, and tech clusters.
	Promote diversity and inclusion and make Nebraska the most welcoming state in the country.	Develop one of the nation's leading inland logistics and industrial hubs.	Further optimize Nebraska's tax incentives programs to better target priority growth sectors. Apply best practices to remain competitive and create efficiency.	Create a state manufacturing center of excellence focused on industry 4.0 automation. Make the state a leader in advanced manufacturing technology and processes.
	Create and launch a "Choose Nebraska" campaign to target and recruit population and workforce from identified markets.	Scale current state and regional housing programs, incentives, and initiatives to build an additional 30,000 to 50,000 affordable, livable housing units.		Identify, attract, and support the development of fin-tech companies and their work with the financial services sector.

Thank you



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Questions?