



2019 Legislative Priorities



Robins Air Logistics Complex and Air Force Base

- Support efforts to retain and acquire missions at Robins and the recapitalization of the JSTARS while also challenging our local delegations to push for the reestablishment of the Georgia Military Affairs Coordinating Council.

Education

- Enhance the state and local focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to create a more competitive workforce to effectively meet the current and future staffing requirements of key employers such as Robins Air Force Base and future businesses attracted to our region.
- Support engineering education in the region by advocating for the Scholarship for Engineering Education (SEE) Program which provides service-cancelable loans to eligible Georgia residents pursuing an undergraduate engineering degree at Mercer University.

Economic Development

- Promote the Middle Georgia Regional Airport Runway Extension that would allow for the arrival and departure of larger aircraft that would facilitate the growth of our maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) work currently performed at the airport while also promoting commercial flights and the growth of ancillary services.
- Engage Georgia Chamber to support efforts to transition Ocmulgee National Monument to Ocmulgee National Park.

Workforce Development

- Support \$5 million in aviation funding to provide for additional tools on Middle Georgia State University's Eastman Aviation campus and at Aviation expansion sites throughout the state, meeting the need for increased capacity to educate students in aircraft operation (flight) and aviation maintenance technology. Specific funding is needed for flight training equipment, including a simulator and multiple aircraft and aviation maintenance technology training equipment.

Transportation

- Support proposed transportation initiatives and road projects in the Georgia Department of Transportation's 2019 plan including but not limited to:
 - Sardis Church Road Extension
 - I-16/I-75 Interchange Improvements
 - Middle Georgia Regional Airport Runway Extension
 - Georgia's Export/Import Highway
 - Joint Use of the Robins Air Force Runway
 - Eisenhower Parkway Extension/Fall Line Connector

- Support inland port expansion in Middle Georgia.