

RESOLUTION NO. 1166

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE TULSA REGIONAL CHAMBER 2019 ONEVOICE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

WHEREAS, the City of Broken Arrow Staff members have been attending the Tulsa Regional Chamber OneVoice Legislative meetings throughout the summer and fall; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include improving the ability of Oklahoma's teacher shortage by improving the ability of Oklahoma's Pre-K-12 public schools to attract, retain and return effective career teachers through policies designed to increase the state's pool of qualified teachers' job satisfaction; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include broadening and protect health coverage by capturing all available state and federal funds for the Oklahoma Health Care Authority; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include addressing comprehensive education funding plan by supporting a comprehensive multi-year plan to meet current and future workforce needs; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include funding behavioral health services by prioritizing funding for the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include medical education funding by maintaining physician training funding for the state's two largest medical schools in the base budgets of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority or university medical authorities; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include restoring college and university funding by making salaries competitive for faculty and staff, support college completion efforts, and keep tuition affordable for students and families; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include eliminating exemptions to 811 One Call Program by supporting the elimination of all exemptions to Oklahoma's One Call Program (Call 811 Before You Dig); and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include supporting critically needed transportation funding by continuing to improve our roads, bridges and return our streets and highways to a state of good repair by fully funding the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's eight-year plan and the county improvement for roads and bridges five-year plan; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include supporting regional water policy by showing strong support for appropriate water conservation practices, incentives, and educational programs to moderate statewide water usage while preserving Oklahoma's population growth and economic development goals; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include criminal justice reform by strengthening alternatives to incarceration and support reforms in sentencing, reentry and rehabilitation that safely reduce the prison population and enable nonviolent offenders to reenter the workforce; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include economic incentives by supporting tax credits, exemptions and incentives that provide an economic return to the state of Oklahoma, maintain competitiveness in business attraction and retention, and increase capital investment; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include funding OCAST (Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology) by increasing OCAST's annual budget to fund more approved projects and capture additional matching funds from the private sector; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include municipal funding diversification by supporting legislation that removes barriers to allow municipalities to reduce costs, operate efficiently, and diversify sources of revenue available to municipalities for operating revenue; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include self-determination in facility and firearm policies by supporting the rights granted by the Second Amendment, protecting the current law giving venue owners, event operators, and recreational facilities the authority to control firearm policies on property they manage; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 State Priorities include startup, early-stage and small business incentives by improving the state incentives for high-growth startup, early-stage and small companies through new rebates or credits, or amended existing programs; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include AmeriCorps funding by fully funding and enhancing the Corporation for National and Community Service, which supports local schools and nonprofit organizations with vital resources and manpower through AmeriCorps programs; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include Federal Health Care Reform by refraining from the changes to the structure and financing of Medicaid that would increase Oklahoma's uninsured rate and would transfer federal risk and costs to Oklahoma taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include Middle-Skill Job Training by supporting efforts to meet industry needs for skilled workers in jobs that require training beyond high school but not a four-year higher education degree; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include supporting Protect Federal Nutrition Programs by maintaining the structure, financing and eligibility criteria of federal nutrition programs under the USDA, which benefit Oklahomans' health, family stability and educational attainment; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include reforming federal financial aid by supporting the reform of federal financial aid eligibility to improve access to higher education for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include supporting Pell eligibility for short-term, industry-driven training by expanding Pell Grant eligibility to short-term, industry-driven training at higher education and vocational-technical clock-hour institutions; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include Arkansas River corridor development by supporting efforts to expedite the implementation of the Arkansas River Corridor Project for river infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System by increasing congressional appropriations to address the approximate \$153 million in maintenance backlog of MKARNS - \$139 million of which is deemed critical – potentially leading to a shutdown of the waterway over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include supporting Tulsa’s Levee System by continuing to support addressing the critical infrastructure needs with Tulsa’s aging levee system, which the Corps of Engineers has designated as one of the five percent highest-risk levee systems in the country; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include eliminating barriers to greater use of natural gas by supporting measures to reduce or eliminate barriers to greater use of American-produced natural gas, including CNG, LNG, GTL and NGLs; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include federal criminal justice reform by reforming national criminal justice systems to emphasize rehabilitation and restorative justice; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include maintaining Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits for the restoration of historic buildings and maintaining federal historic rehabilitation tax credits for the restoration of historic buildings; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include maintaining funding levels for the EPA’s Brownfields Program by encouraging Congress to maintain, or even increase, current funding levels for the EPA’s Brownfields Program; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include small employer health care concerns by minimizing the regulatory burden on small and medium employers under the Affordable Care Act and supporting efforts to reduce these employers’ cost of providing health care; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2019 Federal Priorities include supporting funding for critical economic development programs by supporting, or oppose efforts to cut, targeted economic development funding for programs that have proven to be effective and beneficial to the Tulsa region; and

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, that the Broken Arrow City Council hereby offer its support for the 2019 OneVoice State and Federal Legislative Priorities.

ADOPTED BY THE BROKEN ARROW CITY COUNCIL THIS 20th day of November 2018.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

(seal) City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Assistant City Attorney