

RESOLUTION NO. 938

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE TULSA REGIONAL CHAMBER 2017 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 2017 State Priorities include improving the ability of Oklahoma's K-12 public schools to attract and retain effective teachers; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include expanding Insure Oklahoma to reduce the number of uninsured Oklahomans by accepting federal funds; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include support the completion of the Gilcrease Expressway from I-44 to US-412 / Edison as part of the Oklahoma Driving Forward Initiative, through a funding partnership with the City of Tulsa, Tulsa county, INCOG, Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Oklahoma Turnpike Authority and tribal governments to expedite this long overdue transportation project; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include supporting legislation to preserve and diversify sources of revenue available to municipalities and reduce the volatility associated with a single source for revenue; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include supporting sentencing reforms and rehabilitation programs that enable nonviolent offenders to re-enter the workforce faster and reduce the financial strain on Oklahoma's criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include defending all existing road funding; preventing any diversion of monies and increasing funding for transportation; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include opposing school vouchers and any programs directing public funds to private schools, including Education Savings Accounts and private school tax credits; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include expanding the healthcare workforce in urban and rural Oklahoma through the following means: use all available state and federal resources to support and expand Teaching Health Center related programs, support the Physician Manpower Training Commission, support reforms that will allow Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants, and support efforts to expand the availability, funding and utilization of telehealth services in a manner that enhances locally-provided healthcare services; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include expanding behavioral health and substance abuse services that improve workforce efficiency, boost public safety, create efficiencies in state spending and help additional Oklahomans suffering from behavioral health issues; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include safeguarding current funding for Oklahoma’s education institutions and resolve to restore funding levels to their pre-Recession highs relative to enrollments; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include supporting tax credits, exemptions, and incentives that provide an economic return to the State of Oklahoma, maintain our competitiveness in business attraction and retention, and increase capital investment; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include maintaining Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology ‘s annual budget at its Fiscal Year 2017 level; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include supporting self-determination in facility firearm policies; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include supporting and funding regional air quality efforts to avoid federal non-attainment designation and the economic hardship this would create for our region; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 State Priorities include preserving and maintaining our position as a leading oil and gas producing state, and to protect the important economic impact of oil and gas production to all Oklahomans, we support efforts to open all geologic formation in Oklahoma to horizontal drilling; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities include support for the Tulsa Air National Guard Base in positioning the 138th Fighter Wing for selection as an operating location for the next generation fighter aircraft, the F-35 Lightning II; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities include supporting increased Congressional appropriations to address the approximate \$180 million in maintenance backlog of McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation system – 50% of which are deemed critical – potentially leading to a shutdown of the waterway over the next 5 years, and White River Entrance Channel Cut-off problem caused by the tendency of the White and Arkansas Rivers to merge together; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities include supporting passage of the Marketplace Fairness Act or other federal legislation which will ensure that the sales and use taxes already owed from online purchases are fairly and effectively reported, collected, and remitted; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities include supporting efforts to expedite the implementation of the Arkansas River Corridor Project for river infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities include through long-term funding authorization, fully fund existing HRSA Teaching Health Center programs at \$150,000 per resident and allocate additional resources to double the number of funded TKHS residency positions nationwide; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities include supporting flexibility in negotiations to grant a long-term reauthorization of Oklahoma's Section 1115 waiver for Insure Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities include supporting comprehensive immigration reform that enables the U.S. to attract the best and brightest talent from around the world; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities support efforts to accelerate federal permitting for projects necessary to achieve domestic energy independence; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities support maintaining federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits for the restoration of historic buildings; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities support addressing the critical infrastructure needs with Tulsa's aging levee system, which the Corps of engineers has designated as one of the 5% highest-risk levee systems in the country; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities support the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA) and fully fund federal mandates; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities support large-scale reform of the national mental health system that elevates the national priority of mental health issues; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Federal Priorities support moderate changes in labor regulations to ensure fairness for both employer and employee and minimize harmful effects on job creation; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 encourages and supports members of Congress to restrict federal rulemaking authority by requiring a standardized, comprehensive, and cumulative cost/benefit analysis of the total economic impact of rules, including the effect on jobs, electricity rates and reliability, gasoline prices, energy-intensive manufacturing, small businesses, housing market, power plant closures, agriculture, and state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, OneVoice 2017 Support legislation delaying the implementation of the EPA 2015 Ozone Standard; and

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, that the Broken Arrow City Council hereby offers its support for the 2017 OneVoice State and Federal Legislative Priorities.

ADOPTED BY THE BROKEN ARROW CITY COUNCIL THIS 20th day of
September, 2016.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

(seal) City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Deputy City Attorney