

# AAED TALKING POINTS

## 2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### *S*UPPORT OF COMMERCE:

Commerce is the only state agency that generates a return on investment by aiding Arizona communities in the creation of jobs and economic opportunity for all of rural and urban Arizona. AAED supports the expansion and continuation of the State Jobs Training Program and the service deliverers of Workforce Investment Systems.

Commerce promotes 21<sup>st</sup> century high-wage job opportunities in science, technology, aerospace, defense, and renewable energy for large and small communities, as well as Native American nations.

Commerce is especially important for rural Arizona communities, targeting help through programs like the Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC), the Greater Arizona Development Authority (GADA), Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI), Main Street, and Enterprise Zones.

### *S*UPPORT OF CLEAN, RENEWABLE ENERGY:

Arizona is well positioned to become an attractive home for solar, wind, geothermal and other forms of clean, renewable energy.

To encourage the capital investment necessary to capture our share of “green” manufacturing jobs, state policy needs to provide targeted income and property tax incentives in order to be competitive with other states.

AAED supports targeted income and property tax incentives for energy manufacturing employers who both:

- Pay a workforce average of 125% or greater of the state median wage; and
- Provide healthcare insurance for its workforce.

### *S*UPPORT OF INFRASTRUCTURE/TRANSPORTATION:

AAED supports investing in transportation, energy, and water infrastructure necessary for commerce and industry to thrive and spur additional private investment throughout our state.

AAED fully supports making maximum use of federal stimulus funds for shovel-ready infrastructure programs throughout the entire state.