



NAWBO ADVOCACY

NAWBO advocates on behalf of women business owners, regardless of political affiliation, encouraging and supporting bipartisan legislation focused on building and strengthening a sustainable business economy. NAWBO's bipartisan approach guarantees us a seat at the table, regardless of the current political trends, assuring that decision-makers on both sides of the aisle hear the women-owned business voice.

THE NAWBO LITMUS TEST: ENDORSING LEGISLATION

An endorsement of legislation by NAWBO National is a statement that women business owners across America support the efforts of the lawmakers. NAWBO does not support legislation lightly. Before attaching our name, the legislation is thoroughly vetted to ensure it aligns with our advocacy mission.

An endorsement of legislation by a NAWBO chapter makes a similar statement and reflects on the organization as a whole. Chapters considering endorsing legislation are required to follow this same vetting process, which includes:

- 1) **Bipartisanship Test:** To receive support from NAWBO, a piece of legislation must have support from both Democrats and Republicans, which means members of both parties serve as sponsors and/or original co-sponsors.
- 2) **Coalition Building:** We look to be inclusive and build coalitions from within the business community around an issue or idea—the more individuals and organizations speaking positively about a solution, the better.
- 3) **Data and Expertise Driven Initiatives:** The legislation reflects the interests of our members as shown in our survey results and/or other scholarly data.
- 4) **Business Advancement:** The legislation should help advance the business economy and align with our national NAWBO advocacy agenda. Most importantly, the legislation must tie directly to women and business. NAWBO does not support women's issues which are not directly related to our mission.

Questions about potential chapter endorsements?

Please contact Elle Patout, NAWBO Director of Public Relations, via email at epatout@nawbo.org.