

**Cleveland County Chamber  
Federal Legislative Agenda  
2009**

<u>U.S. Highway 74 Shelby By-Pass</u>	Seek funding to assist with completing the U.S. 74 by-pass around Shelby to allow an earlier completion date for the project.
<u>Water Services</u>	Support Federal assistance to increase the water supply in Cleveland County (additional reservoir capacity).
<u>Appalachian Regional Commission</u>	Support Congressional action for the inclusion of Cleveland County as a member county in the Appalachian Regional Commission.
<u>Estate and Inheritance Taxes</u>	Support extending the current estate and inheritance tax and encourage a rising level in the exemption amounts.
<u>Health Insurance</u>	Support health insurance initiatives, such as tax credits, that encourage small businesses to provide employee health benefits. OPPOSE any efforts to mandate employers to provide specific benefit coverage under group health plans. Employers are encouraged to offer health care coverage consistent with their ability to afford coverage and to promote good health.
<u>Capital Gains</u>	Support the elimination of the capital gains tax on the sale of active operating entities that have been owned by the same party five years or more.
<u>National Energy Policy</u>	Support a national energy policy that facilitates the production oil, natural gas, coal, and nuclear power; that promotes conservation and development of renewable and alternative energy sources; and that explores more drilling options.
<u>Workforce Development</u>	Encourage continued support of Perkins legislation to provide funding for Career and Technical Education.

Card Check  
Legislation

Oppose H.R. 800 and S. 1014, deceptively titled the “Employee Free Choice Act,” for denying employees the basic democratic right of a free and open election using a secret ballot.

Alternative Minimum  
Tax

Support indexing the Alternative Minimum Tax to reflect inflation since the AMT’s inception in order to hold true to the original intent of the tax.

Collective Bargaining  
for Public Employees

Oppose any and all efforts to require state and local governments to enter into collective bargaining agreements with their employees.