

A publication of the Business Council of Alabama

## Pathways to Policy

The Business Council of Alabama's Pathways to Policy Summit on Alabama's Future held earlier this fall at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham – The Wynfrey Hotel included dynamic speakers and presentations.

Speakers included Alabama's top leadership in the Legislature, education and workforce development; Alabama's infrastructure crisis and health care cost management; and the leadership of the BCA and the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama.

Former WNBA MVP and four-time U.S. Olympic basketball gold medal winner Lisa Leslie spoke as an ambassador for Champions for Choice in Education. "School choice is giving parents the opportunity to choose the best school for their children," Leslie said.

House Speaker Mac McCutcheon, R-Monrovia, and Senate President Pro Tem Del Marsh, R-Anniston, discussed

issues expected to be addressed in the 2017 regular legislative session that begins in February.

Speaker McCutcheon said the General Fund budget, Alabama's prison system, and the state's important infrastructure will be primary House issues. Sen. Marsh said the Senate will continue to deal with issues that improve Alabama's business climate.

The BCA's 2016 Chairman Tommy Lee, president and CEO of Vulcan Inc. in Foley, said the Pathways to Policy summit was a change to the BCA's traditional committee days' structure.

"This is an opportunity to highlight issues facing Alabama's business community and solutions to them," Lee said. "We have our own fiscal and political challenges and now is the time for business to step up."

In addition to Leslie, speaking at the Pathways to



**COVER:** Champions for Choice in Education Ambassador and former WNBA MVP Lisa Leslie

**TOP:** Pathways to Improving Education and Workforce Development panel discussion

**TOP LEFT:** Pathway to Solving Alabama's Infrastructure Crisis panel discussion

**MIDDLE LEFT:** House Speaker Mac McCutcheon, R-Monrovia

**BOTTOM LEFT:** Senate President Pro Tem Del Marsh, R-Anniston



R-Decatur, chair of the House Education Policy Committee; Jeff Lynn, senior executive director of Workforce and Economic Development, Alabama Community College System; former state school Superintendent Joseph B. Morton, Ph.D., chairman and president of the BEA; and Alabama Superintendent of Education Michael Sentance.



Speakers for the session on Pathways to Solving Alabama's Infrastructure Crisis, sponsored by the Alliance for Alabama's Infrastructure, were Christina Atchley, manager of congressional and public affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Jason O'Rourke, senior director of public policy and federal affairs, Georgia Chamber of Commerce; and Jim Page, president and CEO, Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama.



Pathways to Improving Health Care and Reducing Costs, sponsored by The Partnership between the BCA and the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama, featured L. Keith Granger, chief executive officer, Grandview Medical Center; BCA board member and BCA Health Committee co-chair Denson Henry, vice president, Henry Brick Company Inc.; Jeff Ingram, senior vice president of the Healthcare Networks Division, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama; and Dr. Chad Mathis, a specialist in sports medicine, Alabama Bone and Joint Clinic. **TBADV**

Improving Education and Workforce Development, which was sponsored by the Business Education Alliance of Alabama, were author, attorney and education reform leader Kevin P. Chavois; Rep. Terri Collins,

THE BUSINESS ADVOCATE

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR:**  
Nancy Wall Hewston

**MANAGING EDITOR:**  
Dana Beyerle

**ART DIRECTOR:**  
Joshua Vaughn

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