

2016-2017 LEGISLATIVE POLICY AGENDA

The Brazil Council commends the Brazil-U.S. Parliamentary Group of the Brazilian Congress and encourages cooperation with the Brazil Caucus of the U.S. House of Representatives. We support a legislative agenda of priorities in Brazil that would enhance legal certainty, boost industry competitiveness and make it more attractive to foreign investment, while simultaneously strengthening the Brazil-U.S. trade and investment relationship. The proposed agenda is outlined below:



Harmonize the Rule-Making Process

Approve bills establishing a comprehensive framework for rule-making process reform toward a more transparent and harmonized system applicable to all regulatory agencies and ministries. Support PRO-REG and CAMEX activities on regulatory coherence.



Revise Brazil's Main Public Bidding Law

Approve bills creating a consolidated framework on public bidding placing less emphasis on price criteria for bid selection and more on technology offered by bidder.



Legalize Outsourcing Activities and Specialized Services Contracts

Support bills that make outsourcing viable in Brazil so entrepreneurs may choose which activities to outsource based on their business models and protect outsourced employees' rights under the law.



Promote Robust Anti-Corruption Legal Framework

Approve bill that encourages prevention of corruption through transparency, due process and protection of information sources; creates a special process for public employees; reformulates the penalty structure establishing felony status for corruption crimes of high amounts; and provides for specific liability for political parties and the criminalization of slush funds.



Approve Legal Framework for Environmental Licenses

Approve streamlining licensing process, creating a wide legal framework, including general requirements, impact studies, public consultations and clear rules on agencies' work coordination, among other topics.



Protect Data Privacy without Disrupting Information Flow

Promote internet regulations that accommodate trans-border information flows and its decentralized nature; allowing consumers to benefit from secure data use and privacy.



Ease Petrobras' Monopoly over Pre-Salt Areas

Support PL 4567/2016, providing Petrobras with right of first refusal to act as operator and hold a minimum of 30% interest of the consortia formed for the oil exploration blocks auctioned in the production-sharing regime.



Authorize Gambling Activities

Approve bills authorizing gambling in Brazil with provisions encouraging the gaming industry to make the public aware of responsible gaming resources, while simultaneously incorporating responsible gaming into business operations.



Support Expansion of e-Commerce and e-Books Trade

Support PL 4534/2012, extending fiscal benefits granted to printed books to include digital, magnetic, optic and Braille versions; fostering social inclusion for millions, and widening their access to low-cost e-books.



Soften Local Content Requirements

Urge adoption of flexible approach to local content requirements, accommodating rapid innovation and local supply gaps, prevalent in high-tech and IT industries, where basic production process (PPB) requirements do not align with the fast-paced reality of advanced manufacturing.