



BUSINESS IS A FORCE FOR GOOD



ICYMI: COBRT Board Member and Liberty Energy CEO Chris Wright Nominated as Secretary of U.S. Department of Energy



Affordable and reliable energy is the backbone of our economy. It powers hospitals, fuels innovation in technology, drives manufacturing, and keeps goods and people moving via transportation. It touches every aspect of our lives, making products and services affordable and accessible. For the families and communities most in need, affordable energy is not just an economic issue — it's a lifeline. Chris Wright, CEO of Liberty Energy and Colorado native, has spent his career advancing energy solutions that

benefit everyone, and now, as the nominee for U.S. energy secretary, he has the opportunity to bring this vision to the national stage.

Wright is a homegrown talent who grew up in Denver, excelled in his studies and landed a spot at the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), earning a BS in mechanical engineering and pursuing graduate work in electrical engineering at both MIT and UC Berkeley. He left school to become an entrepreneur and innovator, starting multiple companies with his most recent, Liberty Energy, employing over a thousand Coloradans.

Wright's leadership extends beyond his role in the shale revolution, where his work helped transform the U.S. into an energy exporter. He is also a staunch advocate for diverse energy sources, including nuclear, geothermal and renewables. His company has driven innovation to reduce environmental impacts while improving efficiency, exemplifying how industry and sustainability can go hand in hand.

[Read more from COBRT President Debbie Brown on Wright's nomination here.](#)

COBRT Partners Meet with Congressmen-Elect Gabe Evans and Jeff Crank

In December, Colorado Business Roundtable partners had the opportunity to engage in two productive roundtable discussions with Congressman-elect Jeff Crank and Congressman-elect Gabe Evans.

Jeff Crank shared his business and economic priorities, outlining his vision for Colorado's 5th Congressional District. COBRT leaders discussed key issue priorities, including Space

Force, immigration reform, workforce development, and tax reform. Similarly, the meeting with Gabe Evans provided a chance to align on policies that will promote a robust and competitive business environment for all Coloradans.

These conversations reflect COBRT's commitment to connecting business leaders with policymakers to foster collaboration and drive policies that support economic growth and innovation.



In the News

American Enterprise Institute

More High-Skill Immigration Is Popular. Let's Act on That

By James Pethokoukis

This might be one of the most underappreciated facts of American public opinion: As controversial as the subject of immigration is, high-skill immigration isn't controversial at all. A Pew Research Center poll in September found 71 percent of Donald Trump supporters and 87 percent of Kamala Harris supporters favored admitting more high-skilled immigrants. Likewise, a survey last summer from Economic Innovation Group found 74 percent of voters support "allowing more legal, high-skilled immigration to the United States," versus only 18 percent who oppose it, with strong support across the political spectrum. [READ MORE](#)

CU Leeds School of Business

Colorado's Economic Forecast for 2025: Slower Growth Amidst Uncertainty

By Katy Marquardt Hill

Despite a complex national and global economic landscape, Colorado's economy will continue to grow in 2025, according to the 60th annual **Colorado Business Economic Outlook**, released by the Business Research Division at the Leeds School of Business.

The forecast, developed by the Business Research Division in collaboration with the State of Colorado and insights from more than 140 leaders across the business, education and government sectors, projects job growth of 1.2% in 2025. This would mean an additional 36,700 jobs throughout the state, with 10 of Colorado's 11 major industries expected to add jobs.

Several factors are contributing to Colorado's growth, including a strong labor market, population expansion and continued investment in key industries. However, after being a leading economy in recent years, Colorado's economy is in a slowing trend, with more moderate employment and GDP growth on the horizon. [READ MORE](#)

Colorado leaders brace for new fight over Space Command location

By Mary Shinn and Breeanna Jent

Colorado Springs celebrated keeping U.S. Space Command last year, but another fight over its location could be brewing as President-elect Donald Trump prepares to take office.

A senior GOP lawmaker from Alabama who wants the command headquartered in his home state said this week that he expects Trump will reverse a decision by President Joe Biden and relocate the command to Huntsville, Ala., soon after the Republican is sworn into office in January.

Members of Colorado's congressional delegation, however, said they'll mount a united, bipartisan front to oppose such a move, arguing that uprooting the fully operational command would threaten national security. [READ MORE](#)

Podcast



New Episode!

The Importance of the U.S.-Mexico Relationship featuring Enrique Perret and Justin Yancy

The United States, Mexico, and Canada share a dynamic relationship shaped by trade, immigration, and economic interdependence. As leadership changes loom in the U.S. and Mexico, questions arise about the future of these relationships: How will they evolve? What outcomes can we expect, and what should we strive for? Joining COBRT President Debbie Brown to explore these critical issues are Enrique Perret, Managing Director of the U.S.-Mexico Foundation, and Justin Yancy, President of the Texas Business Leadership Council.



Enrique Perret brings extensive experience in fostering U.S.-Mexico bilateral relations, having led key governmental and business development initiatives. He currently directs the U.S.-Mexico Foundation and founded the North Capital Forum to strengthen North America's regional power. Justin Yancy, as President of the Texas Business Leadership Council, has guided CEOs and senior executives in shaping policies that ensure Texas remains globally competitive. Together, they discuss pathways toward a resilient and collaborative North American future.

[Listen Here](#)

Get Involved

Colorado Business Roundtable engages with elected officials, business and nonprofit leaders, and other strategic allies to strengthen Colorado's economic vitality by unapologetically amplifying the voice of business in Colorado. Inquire at contact@cobrt.com for partnership opportunities.



Colorado Business Roundtable (COBRT) leverages the experience of executives from Colorado's leading employers representing academia, business, community, and government. Together, we examine state challenges through a long-term, global lens, and we bring forward solutions to strengthen Colorado's economy and improve quality of life.

COBRT is the state affiliate of the Business Roundtable, an association of chief executive officers of leading U.S. companies working to promote sound public policy and a thriving U.S. economy. Learn more and get engaged at cobrt.com.



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