

MEET YOUR //

**GOVERNMENTAL
AFFAIRS
TEAM**



MISSOURI CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY



// KARA CORCHES

Vice President of Governmental Affairs,
Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry

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As the Vice President of Governmental Affairs, Kara Corches advocates for a wide variety of issues areas for the business community, including agriculture, education, energy, health care, tech, and workforce development. Most recently Corches launched the Missouri Chamber Tech Alliance, an initiative to unite Missouri’s technology community behind a statewide, data-driven, solutions-oriented strategy of policy and programs to maximize Missouri’s position as an emerging tech hub.

Before joining the Missouri Chamber, Corches was chief lobbyist for the California Optometric Association in Sacramento for several years. She also worked in political affairs at the California Farm Bureau Federation. Prior to her entry into state-level politics and advocacy, Corches worked at the federal level in Washington, D.C. for the American Medical Association and a member of Congress. In her various roles, she has developed expertise in political action committee fundraising and management as well as mobilizing networks of grassroots advocates.

Corches earned a Master of Public Policy and Administration degree from California State University, Sacramento, where she conducted original research on Medicaid policy. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts in speech communication from Baylor University.

Issues:



WORKFORCE

- Workforce programs
- Apprenticeships
- Education
- Childcare



ENERGY / ENVIRONMENT

- Utilities/PSC
- DNR
- Permits
- EPA



TECHNOLOGY

- Prescription Drug Monitoring
- Healthcare Mandates
- Managed Care
- Telehealth
- Missouri Tech Alliance



COVID VACCINE MANDATES

- Workplace Laws/Mandates



LEGAL CLIMATE REFORM

- Judicial fairness
- Stopping frivolous lawsuits
- Efficient legal process



BUDGET

- All department tracking
- Evaluate member needs in budget
- Gaming



PUBLIC SAFETY

- Crime Reduction
- Reentry Programs



// ROSS LIEN

Director of Legislative Affairs,
Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry

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Ross Lien is an experienced political operative and military veteran. He has worked on and won political campaigns in multiple states across the country. Ross also previously worked in the Missouri governor's office on legislative affairs. Lien graduated with a B.A. in economics from the University of North Dakota. Ross has been with the Missouri Chamber for three years and is an expert on economic development, infrastructure and tax policy.

Issues:



TRANSPORTATION

- Funding
- Tolling
- Regulatory
- 21st Century Task Force
- Airports/ports



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Tax Credits & Incentives
- Small Business
- Tourism
- Broadband



TAX

- Tax Policy
- Wayfair
- Local taxation issues as members dictate



HEALTHCARE

- Prescription Drug Monitoring
- Healthcare Mandates
- Managed Care
- Telehealth



ELECTIONS/ POLITICAL

- PAC
- IP Reform



BUDGET

- All department tracking
- Evaluate member needs in budget
- Gaming



LABOR/HR

- Right to Work
- Prevailing Wage
- Paycheck Protection
- UI
- Worker's Comp
- Minimum Wage
- Leave
- Workplace Laws/Mandates



// **BRENDAN COSSETTE**

**Chief Operating Officer,
Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

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Brendan Cossette has served as the Chief Operating Officer of the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the state's largest business association representing more than 50,000 Missouri employers, since 2015.

Prior to his current role with the Chamber, Cossette lobbied for the Missouri Primary Care Association and the Chamber. He also served as Chief of Staff to two President's Pro Tem in the Missouri Senate and General Counsel of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Additionally, he led a health focused economic development non-profit in Kansas City and practiced law in his hometown of Rolla, Missouri.

Cossette has a bachelor of arts and a juris doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He became a member of the The Missouri Bar in 2001, licensed to practice in Missouri for nearly 20 years.

Background:



HEALTHCARE



// DANIEL P. MEHAN

President and CEO,
Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry

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As president and CEO of the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dan Mehan leads Missouri's foremost advocacy group for job growth and economic expansion. Dan and the Missouri business community are currently implementing a 15-year strategic plan called Missouri 2030:

An Agenda to Lead. The Missouri 2030 plan includes components to improve Missouri's workforce preparation, economic competitiveness, job-supporting infrastructure and business leadership.

Learn more at MO2030.com. Under Dan's leadership, the Missouri Chamber was named the 2019 State Chamber of the Year by the Council of State Chambers.

Dan's work extends to serving on several boards and commissions aimed at bringing economic growth to Missouri, including the Midwest Hub Commission and the Missouri Hawthorn Foundation.

Prior to joining the Missouri Chamber, Dan worked for Washington University in St. Louis. He has also been involved in several statewide and regional campaigns. He was a staff assistant to former U.S. Sen. Christopher "Kit" Bond.

A Missouri native who grew up in St. Louis, Dan has a BA in economics from the University of Pennsylvania. He lives in Jefferson City with his wife Ellen and their two daughters, Cecilia and Katy.

Background:



**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**