



FEATURED SPEAKER



Anna Hui

Director of the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations



BIO

Anna Hui was appointed Director of the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations in March of 2017 and confirmed by the Senate in January 2018, making her the first American of Asian descent to serve in the governor's cabinet in Missouri history. For over two decades in numerous senior positions in both state and federal government, Anna has worked to improve citizen service delivery, provide good stewardship of taxpayer dollars, and promote inclusion and diversity.

Anna started her public service career working for Illinois Governor Jim Edgar as the Special Assistant to the Governor for Asian-American affairs and then for Governor George Ryan, as a senior member of the Washington, D.C. policy management team. She went on to serve as the Associate Deputy Secretary of Labor at the U.S. Department of Labor during President George W. Bush's Administration. In that role, Anna spearheaded efforts to encourage diversity and the inclusion of historically underserved communities in the Department's programs and Federal government management.

After leaving federal service in 2009 and until she returned to Illinois in 2015, she was Chief of Staff to former U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Elaine Chao. From 2015 to 2017, Anna served as Assistant Director and later as Acting Director of the Illinois Department of Labor, where she implemented major reforms in process and program efficiency and effectiveness.

Anna received a J.D. from Loyola University Chicago School of Law, an M.S.M., and an M.B.A. from the University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC) and a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). In April 2018, she was named the recipient of UIUC's Outstanding Asian American Alumni Award from the Asian

American Cultural Center for her dedication to public service. In November 2021, the St. Louis Asian American Chamber of Commerce named Anna the 2021 Connector of the Year, for her outstanding accomplishments as a trailblazer to help connect the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) business/professional community, St. Louis and Asia.

Active in other federal and state government efforts, Anna was appointed to the Federal Government's Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building, as well as Chair of the State of Missouri's Interagency Task Force on Worker Classification, Chair of the Governor's Show Me Strong Recovery Task Force, member of the Job Centers of the Future Task Force and member of the Missouri State Workforce Board. Additionally, she serves as Vice President on the Board of the International Association of Industrial Accidents Boards and Commissions (IAIABC), Executive Committee Member for the Midwest Collaborative (MWC) and the National Association of State Workforce Agencies' (NASWA's) Information Technology Support Center (ITSC) Steering Committee. Her other non-profit board service includes the Board for the Family and Community Trust (FACT), the Advisory Board for the Missouri Science and Technology (MOST) Policy Fellowship Program, and the Science and Technology Advisory Board for the Coleridge Initiative.

Anna also served as the President of the National Association of Government Labor Officials (NAGLO) 2018-2020 and Board President of NASWA 2019-2020; she is a graduate of the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry's 2018 Leadership Missouri Program.