



Business Champions

MISSOURI CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

2023



2023 BUSINESS CHAMPIONS

The Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry is proud to recognize the following lawmakers as Business Champions during the 2023 legislative session. Their work is helping build a better business climate by growing the economy, supporting employers and attracting investment opportunities to our state.

The Business Champions list was created after an analysis of key votes on important business issues. To be included, legislators needed to have at least a **75%** record of siding with the Missouri Chamber on priority issues.



INFRASTRUCTURE

This year, the General Assembly passed a \$49 billion budget that includes game-changing infrastructure investments that will move Missouri forward. One of the major highlights is \$2.8 billion in funding to expand I-70 to three lanes across the state. This transformational investment will further position our state as a national – and global – logistics leader.



PUBLIC SAFETY

After years of dramatically rising statewide crime rates, the Missouri Chamber elevated public safety to the forefront of discussion and action this legislative session. Lawmakers took action to address this complex issue by increasing sentencing standards for repeat violent offenders, enacting Blair's Law to increase penalties for reckless celebratory gunfire and creating a law enforcement training reimbursement program.



WORKFORCE

In 2023, workforce remained the top concern of Missouri employers. To support businesses in the global competition for jobs and talent, the Missouri Chamber championed legislation to create a short-term upskill credentialing program. This grant program will reimburse employers who help their employees earn professional credentials in vital areas for Missouri's economy. Lawmakers also took steps to address Missouri's child care crisis through the budget, allowing more parents to reenter the workforce.



LET BUSINESS DECIDE

The Missouri Chamber worked with pro-business lawmakers to stop efforts to mandate workplace policies through anti-diversity language that threatened countless state contracts with private sector companies. Our position was simple: **Let business decide**. Backed by a united business community, we successfully turned back these efforts at government overreach.

Missouri Senate

Lauren Arthur
Jason Bean
Doug Beck
Mike Bernskoetter
Rusty Black
Justin Brown
Mike Cierpiot
Sandy Crawford
Karla Eslinger
Travis Fitzwater
Elaine Gannon
Lincoln Hough
Andrew Koenig
Tony Luetkemeyer
Karla May
Tracy McCreery
Angela Mosley
Cindy O'Laughlin
Greg Razer
John Rizzo
Steven Roberts
Caleb Rowden
Holly Thompson Rehder
Curtis Trent
Barbara Washington
Brian Williams

Missouri House of Representatives

Phil Amato
Marlon Anderson
Darrell Atchison
Ashley Aune
Gretchen Bangert
Donna Baringer
Jerome Barnes
John Black
Gary Bonacker
Chris Brown
Richard Brown
Paula Brown
Donnie Brown
Cyndi Buchheit-Courtway
Jamie Burger
Michael Burton
Danny Busick
Steve Butz
David Casteel
Brad Christ
Jeff Coleman
Bennie Cook
Ron Copeland
Aaron Crossley
Dane Diehl
Chris Dinkins
David Evans
Bill Falkner
Jeff Farnan
Betsy Fogle
Yolonda Fountain Henderson
Rick Francis
Sherri Gallick
Kurtis Gregory
Dave Griffith
Kent Haden
Willard Haley
Bill Hardwick
Stephanie Hein
Mike Henderson
Dave Hinman
Dan Houx
Barry Hovis
Josh Hurlbert
Keri Ingle
Jamie Johnson
Michael Johnson
Doyle Justus
Jim Kalberloh
Hannah Kelly
Jeff Knight
Ed Lewis
Ian Mackey
Doug Mann
Don Mayhew
Peggy McGaugh
Mike McGirl
Herman Morse
Jeff Myers
Maggie Nurrenbern
Michael O'Donnell
Philip Oehlerking
Bill Owen
Cameron Parker
Jonathan Patterson
Chad Perkins
Tara Peters
Adrian Plank
Dean Plocher
Brad Pollitt
Sean Pouche
Crystal Quade
Rodger Reedy
Renee Reuter
Louis Riggs
Alex Riley
Lane Roberts
Bruce Sassmann
Robert Sauls
Jim Schulte
Greg Sharpe
Brenda Shields
David Tyson Smith
Travis Smith
Kathy Steinhoff
Mike Stephens
Melanie Stinnett
Kemp Strickler
Tim Taylor
Terry Thompson
Sarah Unsicker
Dean Van Schoiack
Rudy Veit
John Voss
Ken Waller
Bridget Walsh Moore
Travis Wilson
Dale Wright
Yolanda Young

Votes on the following bills were considered in determining the 2023 list of Business Champions.

HOUSE/ SENATE VOTE	BILL NO.	ISSUE	CHAMBER POSITION	VOTE DATE
Senate	Amendment to HB 2	Amendment to Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) budget bill that would have threatened education funding and workforce programs	Oppose	4/25/23
Senate	HB 2	DESE budget bill including child care funding	Support	5/5/23
House	HB 2	DESE budget bill including child care funding	Support	5/5/23
Senate	HB 4	MoDOT budget bill including I-70 expansion funding	Support	5/5/23
House	HB 4	MoDOT budget bill including I-70 expansion funding	Support	5/5/23
Senate	HB 7	Dept. of Economic Development budget bill including semiconductor and API funding	Support	5/5/23
House	HB 7	Dept. of Economic Development budget bill including semiconductor and API funding	Support	5/5/23
Senate	SB 20	Employee stock ownership plan tax deduction reauthorization	Support	5/10/23
House	SB 20	Employee stock ownership plan tax deduction reauthorization	Support	5/12/23
Senate	SB 103	Judicial proceedings including business covenants	Support	5/9/23
House	SB 103	Judicial proceedings including business covenants	Support	5/3/23
Senate	SB 186	Public safety omnibus package including strengthening penalties for ATM smash and grabs and establishing a law enforcement training reimbursement program	Support	5/10/23
House	SB 186	Public safety omnibus package including strengthening penalties for ATM smash and grabs and establishing a law enforcement training reimbursement program	Support	5/11/23
Senate	SB 189	Public safety omnibus package including strengthening penalties for repeat violent offenders and creation of Blair's Law	Support	5/10/23
House	SB 189	Public safety omnibus package including strengthening penalties for repeat violent offenders and creation of Blair's Law	Support	5/10/23
House	Amendment to HB 15	Amendment to prohibit state contracting with businesses that have DEI policies and programs	Oppose	3/28/23
House	HB 301	Crime omnibus package including special prosecutor provision	Support	2/9/23
Senate	HB 402	Rural health care access package including APRN expansion	Support	5/10/23
House	HB 402	Rural health care access package including APRN expansion	Support	5/5/23
Senate	HB 417	Upskill credential workforce program	Support	5/5/23
House	HB 417	Upskill credential workforce program	Support	5/9/23
House	HB 668	Cybersecurity grant program for businesses	Support	3/20/23
House	HB 870	Child care tax credit package	Support	4/3/23