



# 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	<b>Amendment to Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) budget bill that would have threatened education funding and workforce programs</b>	Oppose	4/25/23
Senate	HB 2	<b>DESE budget bill including child care funding</b>	Support	5/5/23
House	HB 2	<b>DESE budget bill including child care funding</b>	Support	5/5/23
Senate	HB 4	<b>MoDOT budget bill including I-70 expansion funding</b>	Support	5/5/23
House	HB 4	<b>MoDOT budget bill including I-70 expansion funding</b>	Support	5/5/23
Senate	HB 7	<b>Dept. of Economic Development budget bill including semiconductor and API funding</b>	Support	5/5/23
House	HB 7	<b>Dept. of Economic Development budget bill including semiconductor and API funding</b>	Support	5/5/23
Senate	SB 20	<b>Employee stock ownership plan tax deduction reauthorization</b>	Support	5/10/23
House	SB 20	<b>Employee stock ownership plan tax deduction reauthorization</b>	Support	5/12/23
Senate	SB 103	<b>Judicial proceedings including business covenants</b>	Support	5/9/23
House	SB 103	<b>Judicial proceedings including business covenants</b>	Support	5/3/23
Senate	SB 186	<b>Public safety omnibus package including strengthening penalties for ATM smash and grabs and establishing a law enforcement training reimbursement program</b>	Support	5/10/23
House	SB 186	<b>Public safety omnibus package including strengthening penalties for ATM smash and grabs and establishing a law enforcement training reimbursement program</b>	Support	5/11/23
Senate	SB 189	<b>Public safety omnibus package including strengthening penalties for repeat violent offenders and creation of Blair's Law</b>	Support	5/10/23
House	SB 189	<b>Public safety omnibus package including strengthening penalties for repeat violent offenders and creation of Blair's Law</b>	Support	5/10/23
House	Amendment to HB 15	<b>Amendment to prohibit state contracting with businesses that have DEI policies and programs</b>	Oppose	3/28/23
House	HB 301	<b>Crime omnibus package including special prosecutor provision</b>	Support	2/9/23
Senate	HB 402	<b>Rural health care access package including APRN expansion</b>	Support	5/10/23
House	HB 402	<b>Rural health care access package including APRN expansion</b>	Support	5/5/23
Senate	HB 417	<b>Upskill credential workforce program</b>	Support	5/5/23
House	HB 417	<b>Upskill credential workforce program</b>	Support	5/9/23
House	HB 668	<b>Cybersecurity grant program for businesses</b>	Support	3/20/23
House	HB 870	<b>Child care tax credit package</b>	Support	4/3/23