



## 2017 Public Policy Agenda MEDC Board Approved 11/18/2016

**MEDC** is a statewide, not-for-profit association of over 350 economic development professionals and community leaders from rural, suburban and metropolitan areas from all parts of the State of Missouri. Created in 1979 to provide a unified voice for economic development, MEDC offers its members programs in professional education, advocacy and marketing.

**MEDC Mission Statement** - To serve as an authoritative voice in Missouri on economic development and related issues through an effective program of professional development, public policy, marketing and communications.

### High Priority Items

**Broadband Expansion:** The State of Missouri needs a renewed commitment, strategy and investment in the deployment of broadband capabilities to the entire state. Today's businesses expect broadband as one of the core components of basic infrastructure and many areas do not have adequate access, especially in the rural areas of Missouri.

**Workforce Delivery & Sustainability:** MEDC supports a restructuring of the state's workforce training incentives to meet the variety of training needs of growing businesses. These funds are an investment into Missouri's workers and gives Missourians new skills to match the current needs of companies often times saving jobs and providing higher wages. MEDC also supports an enhanced delivery model within the Department of Economic Development for workforce training programs.

**Reinvest Missouri:** We support efforts to assist Missouri businesses in reinvesting into enhanced technologies, systems and facilities that allow for existing companies to improve their operations in Missouri. MEDC leaders are committed to finding strategies that modify or replace the Chapter 100 process, as well as support a reinvestment tax credit so existing businesses can utilize it for facility improvement and expansions.

### General Items

1. We support the Missouri Partnership as a critical aspect of Missouri's marketing and business attraction efforts and endorse the continued full funding by the Missouri Legislature.
2. We support the Missouri Technology Corporation as an entity of significance for expanding Missouri's entrepreneurial ecosystem.
3. We support efforts to resolve the transportation infrastructure crisis in Missouri.
4. We support the enhancement of Missouri Works and the creation of a deal-closing fund to help our state win the most competitive projects.
5. We support the full implementation and acceptance of the National Career Readiness Certificate as an assessment for citizens seeking employment, for employers seeking qualified talent and that it would be regularly administered in Missouri high schools.
6. We support tax credits for key economic development initiatives and support the updating of the current tax credit system.
7. We support legislation that creates a business-friendly environment.

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