



Missouri Economic Development Council

## 2016 Public Policy Agenda

**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**

**Consistent Training Appropriations:** Missouri Works Training Program has long been an effective and productive tool for business recruitment and retention projects, as well as a means to assist in the re-training of Missouri's workforce. It is time for the General Assembly and the Administration commit to significant, reliable and consistent appropriations for the Missouri Works Training program. These funds are an investment into Missouri's workforce and gives Missourians new skills to match the demands of modern companies often times saving jobs and providing higher wages.

**Reinvest Missouri:** We support efforts to assist Missouri businesses in reinvesting into enhanced technologies and systems that allow for existing companies to improve and/or expand their operations in Missouri. MEDC leaders are committed to find a handful of options for Missouri agencies and leaders to take under consideration within the next couple of years.

### **General Items**

1. We support efforts to resolve the transportation infrastructure crisis in Missouri.
2. 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.
3. We support the Missouri Technology Corporation as an entity of significance for expanding Missouri's entrepreneurial ecosystem.
4. We support the creation of a deal-closing fund in Missouri Works to help our state win the most competitive projects.
5. We support tax credits for key economic development initiatives and support the updating of the current tax credit system.
6. We support legislation that creates a business-friendly environment.

### **MEDC Contacts**

Mr. Brian J. Grace  
MEDC Legislative Consultant  
573-230-9549 (cell)  
[brian.grace@dentons.com](mailto:brian.grace@dentons.com)

Mr. Tim Arbeiter  
MEDC Public Policy Co-Chair  
573-576-2118 (cell)  
[tarbeiter@capechamber.com](mailto:tarbeiter@capechamber.com)

Mr. Ryan Mooney  
MEDC Public Policy Co-Chair  
417-827-1207 (cell)  
[ryan@springfieldchamber.com](mailto:ryan@springfieldchamber.com)