



2019 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

Appropriations: We support the full funding for the following programs, which we believe to be critical economic tools in the state of Missouri:

- **Skilled Workforce Missouri:** We support the increased funding for Skilled Workforce Missouri, also known as Customized Training or Missouri Works Training.
- **Missouri Partnership:** 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.
- **Missouri Technology Corporation:** We support the Missouri Technology Corporation as an entity of significance for expanding Missouri's entrepreneurial ecosystem and endorse increasing funding to prior levels.
- **Broadband Expansion:** We endorse the Missouri Rural Broadband Development Fund and support the full funding of the program. Today's businesses expect broadband as a core component of basic infrastructure and many areas in Missouri, especially rural areas, do not have adequate access.

Chapter 100 Tax abatement: We support a modification to the Chapter 100 tax abatement program to ensure that tax revenues from those projects do not violate the Hancock Amendment when their abatement period ends. It would be detrimental to Missouri communities if the affected taxing districts never received the benefit of development projects coming back on the tax rolls.

General Items

1. We support efforts to resolve the transportation infrastructure crisis in Missouri.
2. We support the creation of a deal-closing fund to help our state win the most competitive projects.
3. We support legislation that creates a business-friendly environment.
4. We support the Missouri Department of Economic Development's Best in Midwest initiative.

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