



Job Title: Vice President of Manufacturing and Industry Engagement

Position Summary

The Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry is seeking a strategic, highly engaged leader to serve as the **Vice President of Manufacturing and Industry Engagement**. This role will lead and coordinate all manufacturing-related initiatives of the Chamber and the Tennessee Manufacturers Association (TMA).

The Vice President of Manufacturing and Industry Engagement will promote collaboration between Tennessee's manufacturing community and key stakeholders, including broader industry leaders, state and federal policymakers, economic development partners, educational institutions, and national manufacturing organizations. This role plays a critical role in advancing a competitive, innovative, and resilient manufacturing environment across the state and will position the Tennessee Chamber and Tennessee Manufacturers Association as a central hub and connection point for manufacturing intelligence, collaboration, and problem-solving. The position will also serve as a key liaison between Tennessee's manufacturing sector, broader industry, and the state's economic development ecosystem, helping to drive investment, business expansion, workforce growth, and supply chain development. This position reports to Josh Brown, President & CEO, Tennessee Chamber of Commerce.

Key Responsibilities

Manufacturing Leadership & Strategy

- Lead and coordinate all manufacturing-related initiatives, programs, and strategic priorities of the Tennessee Chamber.
- Serve as the Chamber's senior manufacturing lead, representing the interests of manufacturers across all regions and subsectors of Tennessee's economy.
- Oversee the Tennessee Manufacturers Association and ensure alignment with the Chamber's broader mission and policy goals.
- Oversee Chamber's Manufacturing Excellence Council, the Chamber's overall coordinating group made up of Chamber manufacturing members; develop and lead sector-specific committees (i.e., automotive manufacturing) that focus on areas with high concentration in Tennessee.
- Develop and maintain a comprehensive, statewide view of Tennessee's manufacturing ecosystem by mapping manufacturers, subsectors, supply chains, and capabilities across the state.

- Detect gaps, opportunities, and emerging trends within Tennessee’s manufacturing base to inform Chamber strategy, policy priorities, and member programming.

Industry Engagement & Strategic Partnerships

- Engage with economic development agencies, workforce development organizations, and infrastructure stakeholders to advance policies that support industrial growth and investment.
- Identify opportunities to strengthen domestic supply chains, support manufacturing investment, and advance strategic industry sectors critical to Tennessee’s economy.
- Develop opportunities for cross-sector collaboration among manufacturers and other key industries, including energy, transportation, healthcare, technology, agriculture, and professional services.
- Cultivate and maintain relationships with business leaders, industry associations, educational institutions, and key stakeholders across a broad range of sectors, serving as a connector between industries and the Tennessee Chamber.

Member Engagement & Growth

- Build and maintain strong relationships with manufacturers across the state through regular outreach, engagement, and recruitment.
- Partner with Chamber membership staff to grow manufacturing membership and enhance member value.
- Serve as a trusted resource to manufacturing members on policy, workforce, and regulatory issues.

Policy & Government Affairs

- Collaborate closely with the Chamber’s government relations team to develop and advance manufacturing and industry-focused policy priorities and engage with state policymakers, executive branch agencies, and members and staff of Tennessee’s congressional delegation.
- Track legislation, rules and regulations affecting manufacturers and other key industry sectors, seeking feedback from manufacturing and industry members.
- Coordinate with national manufacturing organizations and coalitions to align state and federal advocacy efforts.

Public Affairs & Events

- Partner with the Chamber’s marketing and communications team to drive industry-focused messaging, newsletter and blog content, and media opportunities.
- Promote the importance of manufacturing in Tennessee through regular events and collaboration with key stakeholders, including state and federal officials, colleges and universities, and leading manufacturers.

Qualifications

- Bachelor’s degree required; advanced degree preferred.

- 8+ years of experience in manufacturing, economic development, public policy, government relations, or a related field.
- Demonstrated experience engaging senior-level executives, policymakers, and diverse stakeholders.
- Strong understanding of manufacturing policy, workforce, regulatory, and economic development issues.
- Excellent communication, relationship-building, and leadership skills.
- Knowledge of and passion for Tennessee's manufacturing landscape.

The Tennessee Chamber offers a competitive salary and benefits package commensurate with experience. Candidates must be willing and able to work in downtown Nashville per the Chamber's current hybrid work schedule. Some statewide travel will also be required (less than 40%).

How to Apply

Interested candidates should submit a resume, cover letter, and writing sample (e.g., memo, policy brief, research) to **Sarah Burnett** (sarah.burnett@tnchamber.org) with the subject line: **VP of Manufacturing and Industry Engagement Application**. Deadline to apply is June 30, 2026. Preferred start date August 1, 2026