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JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – If you happen to find yourself at the Capitol listening in on an education committee hearing, you’ll probably see one lobbyist with the ear of multiple representatives and senators. Of all the dynamic government relations people working at the Capitol, that lobbyist may just be one of the most influential when it comes to informing legislators on pressing and impactful education and urban development issues.

Her name is Kate Casas, and her lifetime of experience and knowledge of the political process makes her, and all lobbyists, an essential part of modern governance, despite the naysayers and laymen who do not believe special interests should have power inside government.

“Lobbying gives you a different perspective on things,” she says. “When you’re reading it from afar, it’s sometimes hard to see it or understand it. Even though it’s messy, once you know the people and understand their perspective, it gives you a different view on why things are the way they are.

“I think in a perfect world, we would have a government where all the elected officials came with all the knowledge they needed to pass legislation, but that’s not the world we live in especially when you’re in a term-limited environment. [Lobbying] is critical to getting work done to make sure the wheel keeps moving.”



(<http://themissouritimes.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Kate-Casas-Bio.jpg>)

Kate Casas, director of government relations at the Gate Way Group



