## Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/kyle-wilkens-6ab16027 (LinkedIn)

## Top Skills

Legislative Relations
Political Campaigns
Press Releases

## Certifications

Certified Insurance License (Property & Casualty, Life and Health)

Office Emergency Coordinator

# Kyle Wilkens

USDA Rural Development State Director, Missouri Corder, Missouri, United States

## Experience

USDA Rural Development Missouri State Director of Rural Development December 2021 - Present (1 year 9 months)

Missouri, United States

I serve as the Missouri State Director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development. I am responsible for the leadership, management and policy oversight of this federal agency. USDA - Rural Development serves rural communities throughout Missouri by investing in communities through housing and utility infrastructure, by increasing economic opportunity, and by improving the quality of life for all rural Missourians. Rural Development provides over 40 loan and grant programs in the Rural Housing and Community Facilities Services, Rural Business and Cooperative Services, and Rural Utilities Service. Rural Development supports a positive work environment and promotes diversity and inclusion.

Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II

9 years 3 months

Rural Policy Director

March 2018 - December 2021 (3 years 10 months)

Set all rural policy for the Congressman.

Rural Policy Coordinator

February 2017 - December 2021 (4 years 11 months)

Higginsville, MO

Coordinate local agriculture and rural policy for the Congressman.

Serve the Congressman in Lafayette, Ray, and Saline Counties.

Legislative Correspondent

Legislative Assistant

June 2015 - February 2017 (1 year 9 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Legislative policy portfolio that included agriculture, defense, veterans, education, telecommunications, technology, small business, social security and civility legislative issues.

Rural Policy Coordinator
October 2012 - June 2015 (2 years 9 months)

Coordinate local agriculture, defense and rural policy for the Congressman.

Serve the Congressman in Ray, Lafayette and Saline Counties.

Missouri Farm Bureau Insurance

Multi-Line Agent

August 2011 - September 2012 (1 year 2 months)

Higginsville, MO

Congressman Ike Skelton

**District Liaison** 

March 2009 - January 2011 (1 year 11 months)

Addressed various issues by working closely with numerous government agencies, educational facilities, civic organizations, business leaders and military commanders.

Represent and speak on the Congressman's behalf to accurately articulate his views and record.

Managed the Congressman's military academy appointments by collecting relevant information from the applicants, work with the academy nomination committee and liaison between West Point, the Naval Academy; Appointed community leaders of the 4th District to attend annual leadership seminars hosted

Ike Skelton for Congress

Campaign Scheduler

August 2010 - November 2010 (4 months)

Coordinated all campaign events, fundraisers and travel for the Congressman and staff.

Develop campaign strategy and multi media advertising.

Traveled and attended events with the candidate.

Campaigned throughout the District via phone, email and canvassing.

House Committee on Armed Services

Special Assistant to the Chairman

October 2007 - March 2009 (1 year 6 months)

Accompanied Chairman Ike Skelton to every congressional vote as a liaison between House Members and the House Armed Services Committee.

Traveled on official business to Iraq, Afghanistan; Direct contact between defense companies and the Chairman regarding procurement and earmark requests.

Managed the Chairman's annual procurement conference.

Liaison between the House Armed Services Committee and Whiteman Air Force Base, Fort Leonard Wood and Missouri Guard in the 4th Congressional District.

## Office of Congressman Ike Skelton

5 years 6 months

### **Executive Assistant**

July 2003 - October 2007 (4 years 4 months)

- Maintained an understanding of current defense and legislative issues before Congress and set schedule priorities for the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee.
- Demonstrated professional demeanor to ensure positive public relations for the Congressman.
- Reviewed all invitations and meeting requests in order to make final recommendations with regard to the Congressman's attendance.
- Coordinated personal, Armed Services Committee, and Missouri schedules to prevent conflicts and resolve all issues diplomatically and efficiently.
- Arranged speaking engagements, wrote personal correspondence, and return phone calls with the Congressman.

#### Staff Assistant

May 2002 - July 2003 (1 year 3 months)

- Acted as initial point of contact for all constituent inquiries.
- Wrote press releases and personal correspondence.
- Coordinated constituent and distinguished visitor activities inside the Capitol.
- Managed office communications and delegated all incoming correspondence.

#### Ike Skelton for Congress

Campaign Coordinator

August 2006 - December 2006 (5 months)

Coordinated all campaign events.

Campaigned throughout District via phone, email and canvassing.

Attended events with the candidate.

# Education

Missouri State University
Master of Arts - MA, U.S. and World History

University of Central Missouri B.S., History and Political Science · (1998 - 2002)

Agriculture Leaders of Tomorrow (ALOT)

Missouri Agriculture Leadership Program Class XVIII

The United States Army War College Graduate Military and Strategic Leadership Program 2017

USAF Air War College Graduate of Strategic Leadership Program 2021