



SARAH (THOMSON) DODGE

SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT OF ADVOCACY + RELATIONSHIPS

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

BIO

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Sarah Dodge is currently the Senior Vice-President of Advocacy + Relationships at the American Institute of Architects. The Advocacy + Relationships Department leads AIA's member engagement programs to motivate and support the engagement of AIA members in legislative, regulatory, and political advocacy with the goal to advocate legislation and nurture relationships that benefit the practice of architecture. Responsibilities for this department include the advancement of the Institute's policy agenda before federal executive and legislative bodies and practice-relevant federal regulatory agencies, oversight of the AIA's building codes and standards advocacy program before national code development bodies, and operational oversight of the AIA PAC. Additionally, the Advocacy + Relationships Department is responsible for identifying, analyzing and nurturing the external and internal environment that affects the direction and oversight of major Institute strategic alliances with key industry organizations both domestically and internationally.

Mrs. Dodge formerly worked at the American Wood Council (AWC) as the Vice-President of Government Affairs. AWC is the national trade association representing the wood products industry of North America. There, she directed, implemented, and managed federal and state legislative affairs for the association. Mrs. Dodge also served as the principal government affairs representative and lobbyist. In addition to her position at AWC, Mrs. Dodge chaired the Wood Products Alliance (WPA), an alliance of wood products associations and companies, and helps drive the policy agenda for the industry through that venue.

Prior to AWC, Mrs. Dodge worked as the Vice-President of Government Affairs for the International Association of Compounding Pharmacists (IACP). Mrs. Dodge served as the chief lobbyist for IACP and managed the association's relationships with Capitol Hill and federal agencies. Additionally, Mrs. Dodge managed all outside lobbying firms and contracts and spearheaded a coalition to unify pharmacy companies and associations to coalesce around critical legislation and regulation that affected the pharmacy community.

Earlier in her career, Mrs. Dodge served as the chief lobbyist and government affairs official for NATSO. Mrs. Dodge oversaw the government relations department as Vice-President of Government Affairs for NATSO. NATSO then represented over 900 companies, truck stop owners and operators nationwide. Dodge lobbied Congress on key issues ranging from highway re-authorization and hazardous materials to environmental compliance, fuel & energy issues.

Prior to her position at NATSO, Mrs. Dodge was the Director of Legislative Affairs for the Petroleum Marketers Association of America, a national trade association representing over 9,000 petroleum marketing business and 42 state and regional associations. In addition to lobbying, Mrs. Dodge served as PMAA's Political Action Committee (PAC) Manager and built PMAA's grassroots database, amassing more than 3,500 marketers who became key contacts for PMAA.

On the Hill, Mrs. Dodge worked for two Members of Congress. She served as former Congressman Andrew Ireland's (R-FL) Legislative Assistant on Banking, Communications, Energy, Tax, Housing, Education and Transportation. Prior to that, she also worked as a Legislative Assistant for the Republican Leader of the House of Representatives, Robert Michel (IL). It was in his district office that Dodge began her career in politics as a summer intern during college. After college, Mrs. Dodge, a constituent of Congressman Michel's, moved to Washington to begin working on legislative and policy issues for the Congressman.

Mrs. Dodge has also received two Bachelor of Arts degrees (from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana) for Political Science and French. She was an active member of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority. She has also received a master's degree in French + International studies from the Université de Dijon in Dijon, France, and a degree from the American School in Switzerland (prior to her studies at the Université de Dijon). Mrs. Dodge also studied at the Culver Academies (in Culver, Indiana) during her high school years and specialized in sailing, aquatics, and tennis.

Mrs. Dodge also is actively involved in several associations, groups, and other societies, including: The American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), Women in Government Relations (WGR), the Association of Government Relations Professionals (formerly, the American League of Lobbyists), the National Association of Manufacturers, the Indiana University Alumni society, Culver Academies Alumni Group, and the Northern Virginia chapter of Pi Beta Phi Sorority Alumni.