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## **ROBERT O'MEARA JOINS THE MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION AS VICE PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

LANSING, MI – The Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) is pleased to announce that Robert O'Meara has joined the organization as Vice President of Government Affairs. O'Meara started at the MRA on January 18. In this position, he is responsible for all government relations and lobbying activities of the Association.

"Robert joins the MRA with a reputation as a respected and influential advocate in Lansing who knows how to deliver results," said Winslow. "His lobbying experience and built-in network will shorten the learning curve and allow him to successfully communicate our message almost immediately."

Prior to joining the MRA, O'Meara was legislative director at Acuitas, a lobbying organization based in Lansing. There he was responsible for government relations activities for a variety of clients, representing them with legislators and state officials. Preceding his tenure at Acuitas, he served as policy advisor and appropriations advisor for the State of Michigan House of Representatives, Office of Public Policy.

"This is a very exciting time for the Michigan Restaurant Association and I'm absolutely thrilled to be part of the MRA team," said O'Meara. "With some of the most engaged and knowledgeable members within the state, I'm fortunate to have this opportunity and look forward to advancing the goals of this Association."

O'Meara holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Adrian College and received his Master of Arts in Public Policy and Public Administration from Northwestern University. He and his wife, Nikki, reside in East Lansing.

PHOTO: Robert O'Meara

*Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) is the recognized leader of Michigan's hospitality industry, providing essential services to the foodservice community. Founded in 1921, the MRA represents nearly 4,500 Michigan foodservice establishments. The industry plays an integral role in Michigan's economy, employing more than 415,000 people and creating nearly \$14 billion in annual sales.*

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