

**Richard Bender**  
**Senator Harkin's Office**

Richard Bender is Senator Harkin's senior legislative assistant. His responsibilities include appropriations, taxes and economic development including rural economic development.

He is responsible for the Rural Development title of the farm bill for Senator Harkin who is chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. He has been responsible for these areas since 1980 and has worked for Senator Harkin since 1977.

Mr. Bender was on Senator John Culver's staff in 1975 and 1976 where he was responsible for economic development policies.