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Chris Bender is Director of Government and Public Affairs for Novozymes North America. He leads an innovative and forward-leaning team responsible for the company's integrated public affairs and relations work across the United States and Canada. He divides his time between the company's regional PA and PR strategy – and aligning that strategy with the company's operations in Europe, Brazil, India and China – and working with his team on real-time legislative, regulatory and communications needs.

Chris has worked in public affairs for 11 years, previously serving as Press Secretary and Speechwriter for New Jersey Senator Frank R. Lautenberg. Bender also served as Communications Director for Washington, D.C. Deputy Mayor Eric Price and Speechwriter for Washington, D.C. Mayor Anthony A. Williams.

Chris has a B.A. in English from UCLA and a M.A. in Political Management from The George Washington University.