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David French is senior vice president for government relations at the National Retail Federation. As chief lobbyist, he is responsible for developing and implementing advocacy strategy for the world's largest retail trade association.

French came to NRF from the International Franchise Association, where he served as senior vice president of government relations and public policy. Prior to joining IFA in 2006, he led the government relations programs at the International Foodservice Distributors Association and Food Distributors International for five years. He previously spent nearly 10 years on Capitol Hill, serving on the staffs of former Senator Rick Santorum, R-Pa., former Representative Matthew Rinaldo, R-N.J., and the House Select Committee on Aging.

French has played a leading role in many of the most important legislative battles affecting the business community over the past decade, including passage of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts and repeal of OSHA ergonomics regulations. He has also co-chaired the lobbying committee of the Coalition for a Democratic Workplace, a coalition formed to protect the use of secret ballots in union organizing elections. French was named as one of the top association lobbyists by *The Hill* three years in a row, earning a spot on the list in 2011, 2012 and 2013. He was also recognized by *Association Trends* as a leading association lobbyist in 2011 and 2013.

French is a native of Pittsburgh and holds a BA from Wesleyan University.