

**Lara Diaz Dunbar**

Senior Vice President, Government Affairs + Public Policy  
California Restaurant Association

Lara joined the CRA in February 2004. She oversees the CRA's Government Affairs + Public Policy department which includes an advocacy component with state and local lobbyists and a political affairs component that handles the CRA PAC/IPAC. In addition to managing the department, Lara lobbies on issues at the state level.

Lara joined the CRA as an accomplished advocate and leader. She has more than 14 years experience working in California's legislative and political environment and over five years of legal practice experience. After graduating from college, Lara worked as the legislative aide for then-Assembly Member Steve Baldwin (R – La Mesa) and as the legislative director for then-Senator Bruce McPherson (R-Santa Cruz). She then went into private law practice with Sacramento's Mackenroth, Ryan & Fong, where her practice included civil litigation, labor/employment law, real estate law and business law.

Lara has been extensively involved in various community efforts and causes—including serving as legal counsel to the Sacramento Asian Chamber of Commerce—and has held numerous leadership positions with a variety of community and professional organizations. She is the past president of the Asian Pacific Bar Association of Sacramento and has held leadership positions with the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association and the Sacramento County Bar Association. She attended law school at the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. She earned her juris doctorate and was admitted to the California State Bar in June 2000.