

November 30, 2011

Re: Business Letter on H.R. 527, the Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2011

To Members of the U.S. House of Representatives:

We are writing to express our support for H.R. 527, the Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2011, and to ask you to vote for passage of this legislation. The legislation improves the regulatory process by strengthening agency analysis of a rule's impact on small businesses.

Small businesses are the backbone of our nation's economy, and their ability to operate efficiently and free of unnecessary regulatory burdens is critical for our country's economic recovery. Research from a 2010 study released by the Small Business Administration (SBA) Office of Advocacy illustrates that the small business community is disproportionately affected by burdensome federal regulations. This legislation addresses that small business challenge directly.

H.R. 527 gives the SBA Office of Advocacy additional authorities and requires the office to establish standards for conducting a "regulatory flexibility analysis" during the rulemaking process. It improves transparency and ensures that agencies thoughtfully consider the impact of regulations on small businesses.

The legislation would also improve the accuracy of benefit-cost analysis by requiring agencies to consider the indirect impact of regulations on small business.

Finally, the legislation's provisions on periodic review of rules are in line with President Obama's Executive Order 13563, which requires agencies to conduct a retrospective analysis of existing rules to identify and modify rules in need of reform.

The legislation strengthens the regulatory process and builds upon the intent of Congress when the Regulatory Flexibility Act was originally enacted in 1980.

Thank you for your support of small business and we urge you to support the Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2011, H.R. 527.

Sincerely,

Alabama Restaurant Association

American Architectural Manufacturers
Association

American Beverage Association

American Coatings Association

American Composites Manufacturers
Association

American Council of Engineering Companies

American Farm Bureau Federation

American Fiber Manufacturers Association

American Foundry Society
American Home Furnishings Alliance
American Hotel & Lodging Association
American Institute for International Steel
American Nursery and Landscape Association
American Sportfishing Association
American Trucking Associations
AR State Chamber of Commerce/Associated Industries of AR
Arizona Nursery Association
Arkansas Hospitality Association
Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc.
Associated General Contractors of America
Associated Industries of Massachusetts
Association For Hose and Accessories Distribution
Association of Washington Business
Brick Industry Association
Business Council of Alabama
Business Council of New York State
California Manufacturers & Technology Association
California Restaurant Association
Carpet and Rug Institute
Colorado Association of Commerce & Industry
Colorado Restaurant Association
Connecticut Restaurant Association
Edison Electric Institute
European-American Business Council
Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association
Food Marketing Institute
Forging Industry Association
Georgia Restaurant Association
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America
Greeting Card Association
Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association
Idaho Lodging & Restaurant Association
Idaho Retailers Association
Illinois Manufacturers' Association
Illinois Retail Merchants Association
Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc.

Independent Lubricant Manufacturers Association
Indiana Chamber of Commerce
Indiana Hotel & Lodging Association
Indiana Manufacturers Association
Industrial Fasteners Institute
Industrial Minerals Association - North America
Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute
International Council of Shopping Centers
International Sign Association
Iowa Restaurant Association
IPC - Association Connecting Electronics Industries
Kansas Restaurant & Hospitality Association
Kentucky Restaurant Association
Kentucky Retail Federation
Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association
Louisiana Association of Business and Industry
Louisiana Restaurant Association
Louisiana Retailers Association
Maine Merchants Association
Maine Restaurant Association
Manufacturers Association of Florida
Maryland Retailers Association
Maryland Retailers Association
Massachusetts Restaurant Association
Michigan Restaurant Association
Minnesota Restaurant Association
Minnesota Retailers Association
Mississippi Hospitality and Restaurant Association
Missouri Association of Manufacturers
Montana Chamber of Commerce
Montana Restaurant Association
Montana Retail Association
Motor and Equipment Manufacturers Association
National Association for the Self-Employed
National Association of Convenience Stores
National Association of Home Builders
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of REALTORS

National Association of the Remodeling Industry
National Automatic Merchandising Association
National Black Chamber of Commerce
National Club Association
National Community Pharmacists Association
National Council of Chain Restaurants
National Federation of Independent Business
National Grocers Association
National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National On-site Testing Associates
National Restaurant Association
National Retail Federation
National Roofing Contractors Association
National Shooting Sports Foundation
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Nevada Manufacturers Association
Nevada Restaurant Association
New Mexico Restaurant Association
Non-Ferrous Founders' Society
North American Association of Food Equipment Manufacturers
North American Die Casting Association
North Dakota Hospitality Association
Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers and Employers Association
NPES The Association for Suppliers of Printing, Publishing and Converting Technologies
Ohio Restaurant Association
Oklahoma Restaurant Association
Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association
Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association
Pennsylvania Restaurant Association
Pennsylvania Retailers Association
Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors – National Association
Precision Machined Products Association
Printing Industries of America
Puerto Rico Manufacturers Association
Resilient Floor Covering Institute

Restaurant Association of Maryland
Retailers Association of Massachusetts
Rhode Island Hospitality Association
Security Industry Association
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council
Snack Food Association
Society of American Florists
Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates
Society of Glass & Ceramic Decorators Products
South Carolina Hospitality Association
South Dakota Retailers Association
Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association
Specialty Equipment Market Association
SPI: The Plastics Industry Trade Association
Tennessee Hospitality Association
Texas Association of Business
Texas Restaurant Association
Textile Care Allied Trades Association
The Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce
Treated Wood Council
Tree Care Industry Association
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Travel Association
Utah Food Industry Association
Utah Manufacturers Association
Utah Restaurant Association
Utah Retail Merchants Association
Ventura County Agricultural Association
Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association
Washington Restaurant Association
Washington Retail Association
West Virginia Manufacturers Association
Window & Door Manufacturers Association
Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce
Wisconsin Restaurant Association
Wood Machinery Manufacturers of America
Wyoming Lodging and Restaurant Association