



July 9, 2012

*RE: The House of Representative's forthcoming attempt to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act*

Dear Member of Congress:

The House of Representatives is expected to vote this week to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Dismantling this historical legislation would be an affront to our nation's small business community and a failure on lawmakers' part to acknowledge the widespread financial relief small businesses and consumers are already seeing under the law.

Since the enactment of federal healthcare reform, America's 28 million small businesses have already benefited greatly from provisions such as tax credits, rate review and Medical Loss Ratio (MLR). There are even more crucial components of the law coming in 2014, health insurance exchanges in particular. These online marketplaces will allow small employers and individuals to pool their purchasing power and drive down costs, while also offering more health plan choices.

Repealing the Affordable Care Act would do away with exchanges and other provisions of the law already hard at work—a huge setback for entrepreneurs who need our broken healthcare system fixed. And for many would-be entrepreneurs who are “locked” in their jobs because they need health insurance, dreams of starting a business would be quashed. Their opportunity to obtain affordable coverage through an exchange would disappear, as would protection from excessively high premium rates due to pre-existing conditions.

Our entrepreneurs need the benefits of reform—lower healthcare premiums, expanded choice and insurer competition—so they can spend less on premiums and more on growing their businesses and creating jobs. A vote for repeal would be a step in the wrong direction for small businesses everywhere. Congress should turn its focus to small business-friendly legislation that can create jobs and grow the economy, not tear down legislation that's already working.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Arensmeyer".

John Arensmeyer  
Founder & CEO, Small Business Majority