

July 12, 2011

The Honorable Sam Graves  
Chairman  
Committee on Small Business  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nydia M. Velázquez  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Small Business  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Velázquez,

We are writing to express our support for H.R. 527, the Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2011. 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strengthens the regulatory process and builds upon the intent of Congress when the Regulatory Flexibility Act was originally enacted in 1980.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 vote for the Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2011, H.R. 527.

Sincerely,

American Architectural Manufacturers  
Association  
American Beverage Association  
American Coatings Association  
American Composites Manufacturers  
Association

American Council of Engineering Companies  
American Fiber Manufacturers Association  
American Foundry Society  
American Home Furnishings Alliance  
American Institute for International Steel  
American Sportfishing Association

American Trucking Associations  
Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc.  
Association For Hose and Accessories  
Distribution  
Brick Industry Association  
Carpet and Rug Institute  
Edison Electric Institute  
European-American Business Council  
Food Marketing Institute  
Forging Industry Association  
Greeting Card Association  
Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association  
Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc.  
Independent Lubricant Manufacturers  
Association  
Industrial Fasteners Institute  
Industrial Minerals Association - North  
America  
Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute  
International Sign Association  
IPC - Association Connecting Electronics  
Industries  
Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers  
Association  
Motor and Equipment Manufacturers  
Association  
National Association for the Self-  
Employed  
National Association of Convenience  
Stores  
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 Federation of Independent Business  
National Lumber and Building Material Dealers  
Association  
National Marine Manufacturers Association  
National Restaurant Association  
National Retail Federation  
National Roofing Contractors Association  
National Shooting Sports Foundation  
Non-Ferrous Founders' Society  
North American Association of Food Equipment  
Manufacturers  
North American Die Casting Association  
NPES The Association for Suppliers of Printing,  
Publishing and Converting Technologies  
Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors –National  
Association  
Precision Machined Products Association  
Printing Industries of America  
Resilient Floor Covering Institute  
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  
Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association  
Specialty Equipment Market Association  
SPI: The Plastics Industry Trade Association  
Textile Care Allied Trades Association  
Treated Wood Council  
Tree Care Industry Association  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
Window & Door Manufacturers Association  
Wood Machinery Manufacturers of America

cc: Members of the Committee on Small Business, U.S. House of Representatives