

Aric Newhouse

Senior Vice President
Policy and Government Relations

February 1, 2011

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the nation's largest industrial trade association representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support Senate Amendment 13 offered by Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) to the FAA reauthorization bill. The amendment would repeal the 2010 health care reform legislation.

The vast majority of American manufacturers, including 97 percent of NAM member companies, voluntarily offer health benefits not only to attract a skilled workforce, but because they believe it is the right thing to do for their employees. Our members support proposals that reduce soaring health costs, improve the efficiency of the current system and enhance the quality of care.

Conversely, manufacturers oppose proposals that make it more expensive or more difficult for employers to offer health benefits. Legislation enacted in 2010 – specifically the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act – will drive up manufacturers' health care costs and force many companies to consider abandoning the generous benefits they currently offer.

We remain adamantly opposed to the new laws' employer mandates, industry-specific fees, Medicare hospital insurance tax increases, reporting requirements, excise taxes and limits on Flexible Spending Accounts – all of which will place more burdens on America's job creators. Our nation can and must do much better at finding a health care solution, and the 2010 legislation should be repealed.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on Senate Amendment 13, including procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 112th Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Aric Newhouse

Key Manufacturing Vote