

**Please copy into email and send to your Senator – please place your name and company name below!**

Dear Senator:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to language contained in the Manager's Amendment to H.R. 3590, which excludes the construction industry from the small business exemption contained in the bill. As an active employer within the construction industry I understand the negative impact that a mandate to provide health insurance will have on employers like me, H.R. 3590 exempts employers with fewer than 50 employees from the fines levied on those who cannot afford to provide their employees with the federal minimum standard of health insurance. However, the Manager's Amendment singles out the construction industry by altering the exemption so that it applies to only those firms with fewer than 5 employees.

This narrowly focused provision is an unprecedented assault on our industry, and the men and women who every day make the bold decision to strike out on their own by starting a business. It is unreasonable to presume that small business owners can bear the increased cost of these new benefits simply because Congress mandates that they do so.

In the real world, where the rhetoric surrounding this legislation will meet the stark reality of the employer struggling to make payroll, this special interest carve out is simply another bill to pay in an industry that, with an unemployment rate exceeding 18% and more than \$200 billion in economic activity lost in the past year, is already struggling to survive.

As Congress moves forward in the legislative process for H.R. 3590, I strongly encourage you to address this onerous provision that needlessly singles out small construction industry employers. I sincerely urge you to vote NO to H.R. 3590.

Sincerely,

***Member Name***

***Company Name & Title***