



## AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011

Dear Representative,

On behalf of Americans for Tax Reform, I urge you to support H.R. 2250, the “EPA Regulatory Relief Act of 2011”, and H.R. 2681, the “Cement Sector Regulatory Relief Act of 2011.” The purpose of these bills is to reduce the amount of regulation directly affecting America’s manufacturing and construction industries. If passed, this legislation would save jobs and reduce operating costs—all while safeguarding America’s environment.

The U.S. economy is overregulated. The Senate Committee on Environmental and Public Works estimates that federal regulations cost on average \$8,086 dollars per employee each year. This raises unemployment and deters investment by unnecessarily increasing business costs. The National Center for Policy Analysis finds that by 2020, current environmental regulations will cost the U.S. economy over 7.3 million jobs. These figures make it clear that the United States economy cannot afford its current regulatory burden.

Passing H.R. 2250 is a critical step in remedying this problem. The EPA estimates that the new standards it has enacted for boilers, processors and incinerators will cost manufacturing and industrial firms \$5.8 billion in up-front capital costs, \$2 billion in ongoing annual costs, and other related industries \$14 billion. Ultimately, these costs will put 224,000 jobs at risk. Passing this legislation, however, would give the EPA the time it has requested to review these new standards, as well as provide businesses more time to overhaul their facilities.

H.R. 2681 is similarly important. In the past year, the EPA has set new standards that would affect cement makers’ emissions, production methods and waste disposal. Together, these measures would cost an estimated \$5.4 billion dollars to an industry with annual revenues of \$6.5 billion dollars. This would likely cause 4,000 jobs to be lost in the cement industry and an additional 9,000-12,000 more jobs postponed due to cancelled construction projects. The U.S. economy can hardly afford to incur these types of job losses with unemployment still over 9%.

Construction and manufacturing are two industries that were hit hard during the last recession. These industries have always been central to America, and critical to reducing unemployment, especially for those without a college education.

It is for these reasons that I urge you to pass H.R. 2250, the “EPA Regulatory Relief Act of 2011”, and H.R. 2681, the “Cement Sector Regulatory Relief Act of 2011.”

Onward,

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