



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

October 3, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

We recently identified elements of your job creation proposals that we believe represent opportunities for common ground between Democrats and Republicans. We write today to ask that you give similar consideration to our plan for America's job creators, including two important bills the House will consider this week that will support job creation and prevent thousands of jobs from being destroyed in some of our country's most critical industries.

One of the bills the House will consider this week is H.R. 2250, the EPA Regulatory Relief Act, approved by the House Committee on Energy & Commerce last month by a bipartisan vote of 36 to 14. If implemented, the measure would protect more than 200,000 American jobs that the federal government's new boiler rules put at risk. The rules will affect boilers used by thousands of major employers, including hospitals, factories, and colleges, imposing billions of dollars in new costs and making many goods and services more expensive. The bill would provide regulatory relief to affected employers by directing the federal government to reissue the rules in a manner that is less burdensome and more achievable in practice.

The House this week will also consider H.R. 2681, the Cement Sector Regulatory Relief Act, which passed the same committee last month by a bipartisan vote of 33 to 12. If approved, the bill will require the federal government to reissue its recent rules affecting cement manufacturing to ensure that those rules are achievable by real world facilities. It will allow the federal government additional time to develop a more balanced and effective approach that will protect public health and the environment without imposing unnecessary economic harm on American businesses and workers. As currently written, the rules threaten to shut down up to 20 percent of the nation's cement manufacturing plants in the next two years, sending thousands of jobs permanently overseas and driving up cement and construction costs across the country.

The federal government has a responsibility under the Constitution to regulate interstate commerce, and there are reasonable regulations that protect our children and help keep our environment clean. But there are also excessive regulations that unnecessarily increase costs for consumers and small businesses, and make it harder for our economy to create jobs. The rules

The Honorable Barack Obama
October 3, 2011
Page 2

addressed by the bills the House will consider this week are examples of such harmful government excess.

Watching from the House gallery during your recent address to a Joint Session of Congress was Spencer Weitman, the president of National Cement, an Alabama-based company that was forced by federal regulatory obstacles to suspend a \$350 million construction project that would have created more than 1,500 new jobs. Mr. Weitman's ordeal is an example of the challenges that would be addressed for American job creators by enactment of these two common-sense, bipartisan bills.

It is our hope that in the spirit of putting country before party, you will call on the Senate to follow the House in passing these measures, and commit to signing them into law should they reach your desk.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and for your shared desire to enact reforms that will help our nation's economy return to creating jobs.

Sincerely,

John Boehner

Kevin McCarthy

Wesley Young

John R. Cantor

Jeffrey Miller

David Dreier

Ray Walker

Eric Cantor

John L. Dingell

Cathy McMoran-Rodgers

Mike Sessions

Tim Wirth

Paul Ryan