

Share health-care costs

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New research shows that comprehensive health-care reform— that includes employers sharing responsibility for costs in exchange for coverage — could ultimately save America's small businesses as much as \$855 billion over the next decade.

A report released by Small Business Majority says savings would simultaneously protect wages, curb job loss and allow small-business owners the financial flexibility they need to reinvest in their companies.

There are nearly 27 million small businesses in the United States. They're a mainstay of our nation's economy. Like many of my fellow small-business owners, I am closely following Congress' work to reform our health-care system. We need an American solution that ensures quality, affordable coverage for all.

It's a commonly held myth that those who are pro-business are against health reform. I, for one, am ready to participate in the health-care solution, and I'm willing to contribute my fair share. I was raised to work hard and provide for myself, but the reality is other small businesses are struggling to provide health coverage. We need real reform this year so, as small-business owners, we can continue to create jobs and lead the way to economic recovery.

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