



Small Business Owners

SPEAK UP

Health reforms must pass this year to help local business spur economic growth

Rising Insurance Costs Limit Small Business's Ability to Recruit & Retain Good Employees

From restoring historic Salt Lake City warehouse buildings to designing sustainable homes, Lloyd Architects is a renowned urban and residential architecture firm. Founded in 1963 by Glen Lloyd, the firm has been run by his son Warren Lloyd for the past 10 years.

Warren views providing coverage as the only way that his firm can recruit and keep top-notch architects. *"Salaries in our industry are not as competitive as they used to be. We must offer strong coverage to draw in new talent and keep it. Our young staff knows how important coverage is to their future, and we must provide it."* The firm covers 100% of the premium.

But the recession coupled with 15-20% increases in premiums each year have hit the firm hard. *"Because premiums dominate our overhead, within the next six months to a year we will either stop covering all of the premium, move to less comprehensive coverage or be forced to stop providing coverage altogether,"* says Warren. The continued rise in costs could force Lloyd Architects to abandon a 40+ year tradition of offering health insurance to their employees. This in turn would create a domino effect causing the firm to lose talented employees and prevent the company from growing and creating new jobs.



The Solution: Enact National Reform *This Year*

Utah small business owners have spoken in unambiguous terms about the need for comprehensive health reforms. As the economy falls deeper into recession, the urgency for reform grows stronger. Sixty four percent of Utah small business owners say health reform is important to getting the economy back on track.

Congress and our state legislature need to enact health reforms *this year* that bring stability and peace of mind to Utah small business owners. 68% of our small businesses agree that the state and federal government must be partners in reforming health care. Small businesses are the foundation of our economy. They cannot lead the way to economic recovery—as they must—without immediate, lasting relief from rising health care costs.