

## **Survey: Utah's small businesses say cost is main barrier to providing health care**

By Associated Press

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SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A new survey shows Utah's small business owners are struggling to afford employee health care programs and want bipartisan reforms.

Survey results were released Wednesday by Utah health policy advocates, local business leaders and the Utah Business Group on Health in association with the national nonprofit, Small Business Majority.

The survey queried 300 owners of small businesses across Utah in early June.

Eighty percent of those polled say they support a proposal for a health insurance pool that would allow small businesses and individuals to choose their coverage.

Another 60 percent of respondents say state and federal governments must be partners in reforming the health care system. Some 79 percent say they are struggling to cover health care costs for their employees.

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On the Net:

Utah Health Policy Project: <http://www.healthpolicyproject.org>