



**Petition: Prioritize small business growth and protect access to healthcare through targeted tax reform**

Dear Members of the House Ways and Means Committee and Senate Finance Committee,

As small business owners, we work hard to support our communities, employees, and our Main Streets. We believe that every American deserves access to opportunity and a fair tax code that prioritizes expanding access to affordable healthcare, childcare, and a stable economy. We, the undersigned, are deeply concerned that proposals to extend corporate tax cuts could come at the cost of policies that small businesses rely on to make ends meet. Increased costs across the entire economy have led to rising healthcare premiums coupled with the anticipated loss of critical tax credits and public health infrastructure that help small business owners and their employees. Cutting costs to reward the ultra wealthy at the expense of hard working small business owners is not “pro-growth” as many Members have claimed and will have a grave impact on the outlook of the American economy. If Congress cuts critical programs at the expense of more tax breaks for corporations and their friends, American entrepreneurs and their employees will suffer when it comes to accessing healthcare plans, support for childcare, and other key programs. The end result of the budget cutting blitz? The ability to start and grow a business will become further out of reach for many who are depending on Congress to level the playing field in the tax code.

Key provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) that impact small businesses are set to expire this year, including the 20% pass-through deduction (Section 199A). In a recent survey conducted by Small Business Majority, data shows that small businesses overwhelmingly believe that the current tax code is not working for them, despite the promise of the pass-through deduction. Congress can best meet the needs of small businesses by:

1. **Reforming the 199a deduction to better target smaller businesses**, capping the deduction in a way that rewards the creation of new businesses and not just the 4.5% of pass-throughs that disproportionately benefit from the current provision. According to Tax Policy Center data, while the wealthiest passthrough entities claimed an average deduction of over \$1 million in 2021 claimants with adjusted gross incomes (AGI) below \$100,000 took home an average deduction of just \$1,997. To make this provision more beneficial for small businesses, our coalition is proposing a maximum deduction of up to \$25,000 for small business owners and phasing out the deduction completely after a business owner reports more than \$500,000 in AGI
2. **Incentivizing healthcare enrollment and accessibility – ensuring small business owners and employees can afford quality coverage through the Enhanced Premium Tax Credits (PTCs)**. If Congress does not act by this year, insurance premiums will increase

by 25% to 100% for eligible Marketplace enrollees. Experts estimate that nearly [4 million people will lose coverage](#), almost half of whom are Black or Latino. This would disproportionately hurt small businesses and their employees as the majority of marketplace enrollees own or work for a small business.

3. **Making it easier for working families and business owners to balance work and family responsibilities** by expanding the Child Tax Credit and the Child Care and Dependent Tax Credit. Expanding access to childcare is simply good for business. According to recent [polling conducted by Small Business Majority](#), entrepreneurs' childcare issues impact their ability to run their businesses. Small business owners report that their own childcare issues have forced them to take substantial time away from the business (56%), lose out on business opportunities (39%), hire additional help (28%) and shut down their own business and rejoin the workforce (26%).
4. **Ensuring that commonsense revenue collection and enforcement (not inflationary tariffs at the cost of the business owner)** supports our efforts to lower our national debt, while prioritizing sustained investment in programs that American entrepreneurs depend on. Meanwhile, there are proposals to cut the corporate tax rate from 21% to 15%, further shifting the burden onto working families and small businesses while benefiting large corporations. Additional tax cuts for large corporations will make it even harder for small businesses to overcome skyrocketing healthcare and childcare costs to attract and retain the qualified workforce that is necessary to compete and grow.

We cannot afford to trade this golden opportunity for meaningful tax reform for large-scale tax breaks for American corporations that are detrimental to competition on Main Street. Small businesses are the backbone of the economy, and we need policies that support our success—not policies that make it harder to pursue our great American Dream.

We urge you to consider the grave impacts that many of these reckless proposals will have on American businesses. American businesses *are* small businesses, representing over 99% of our economy. Congress must consider carefully, and with an intent to collaborate in a bipartisan manner, proposals that will truly deliver much needed relief for Main Street, not Wall Street.

Sincerely,

Main Street Alliance and Small Business Majority

*Hundreds of small business owners in our network have signed a petition urging Congress to not cut key programs like premium tax credits, or care economy investments, to pay for tax cuts for large corporations.*

Veronica Wells, T and V Rooming for the Mentally and Disable LLC, Sacramento, CA

Sylvia D Silvas, Owner, Childcare, Gilroy, CA

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Ayrial Griffin, Owner, Luxurious Peace, Los Angeles, CA

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Deana Acton, Owner, Sandpiper Landing Inn, Branson, MO

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Brandon Korman, Owner, Tropical Smoothie Cafe, Wilmington, NC

John Castano, Owner, Avid painting and remodeling, Charlotte, NC

Beverly Dvorkin, Store Owner, After-Words Bookstore, Chicago, IL

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Apollo Woods, Owner, Bigger Than Food  
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Katharine Rose, Owner, Goodkind  
Corey Hart, Owner, Hart House Guitars  
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Briar Winters, Owner, Marble & Milkweed  
Ashley Storck, Owner, Markeitni Media  
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Bruce Tunze, Retired  
David Borris, Retired



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Jerry Alexandratos, Retired  
Jim Loveland, Retired  
Judy Ferro, Retired  
Lee Mercer, Retired  
Lisa Pittelli, Retired  
Lyle Funderburk, Retired  
Mark Smith, Retired  
Mary Casey, Retired  
Mary Ann Maikish, Retired  
Paul McDowall, Retired  
Richard Amend, Retired  
Russell Novkov, Retired  
Steven Nasta, Retired  
Sue Nelson, Retired  
Tom Devine, Retired  
Vicky White, Retired  
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Woodworks  
Eric West, Owner, Self Employed  
Jessica Sollaccio, Owner, Self Employed  
Julie Oakes, Owner, Self Employed  
Kate MacCrimmon, Owner, Self Employed

Kimberly Wiefeling, Owner, Silicon Valley  
Alliances  
Morrella Raleigh, Owner, Southgate House  
Revival  
Susan Stewart, Owner, Stewarts'  
Cheesecakes  
Katherine Raz, Owner, The Fernseed  
Brooke Legler, Owner, The Growing Tree  
Melinda Wells, Owner, The Mountain  
Room: Bar at the R  
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Mary Tinkey, Owner, Tiny Tots Daycare  
Theresa Fredericks, Owner, Tree Top Child  
Development Center & Preschool  
Jon Stark, Owner, Unemployed  
Melanie Giangreco, Owner, Upstream  
Consulting & Evaluation, LLC  
Ursa Minor Lopez, Owner, URSA MINOR  
LOPEZ LLC  
Roland Mack, Owner, Without a Spot or  
Wrinkle Income Tax Consultant  
Ray Batch, Owner, WP&B  
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Center