

CACI Joins NAM Coalition Urging Congress to Provide Regulatory Relief for Small Businesses

July 18--CACI today agreed to be listed on a letter from the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) to the members of Congress urging support of a bill that would protect small businesses from overly burdensome federal regulations. CACI is affiliated with both NAM and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

The federal proposal is similar to what Governor John Hickenlooper suggested in his State of the State address in January for Colorado, but further discussion was needed between the Governor's Office and the legislature to reach agreement on a bill.

The Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act (H.R. 527) will improve the regulatory process for small businesses. H.R. 527 will strengthen a law enacted 30 years ago (the Regulatory Flexibility Act) that has saved small businesses billions of dollars in reduced regulatory costs.

Among other things, the bill expands the authority of the Small Business Administration's (SBA) regulatory watchdog over agency rulemakings. This will help ensure agencies thoroughly consider small business impacts in their analysis and will eliminate loopholes that currently allow agencies to avoid this analysis.

On July 7th, the House Judiciary Committee favorably reported H.R. 527. The House Small Business Committee followed suit on July 13th. This legislation has the potential to be the framework for meaningful, bipartisan regulatory reform. Here's the text of the NAM letter:

To Members of the U.S. House of Representatives:

We are writing to express our support for H.R. 527, the Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2011. The legislation improves the regulatory process by strengthening agency analysis of a rule's impact on small businesses.

Small businesses are the backbone of our nation's economy, and their ability to operate efficiently and free of unnecessary regulatory burdens is critical for our country's economic recovery. Research from a 2010 study released by the Small Business Administration (SBA) Office of Advocacy illustrates that the small business community is disproportionately affected by burdensome federal regulations. This legislation addresses that small business challenge directly.

H.R. 527 gives the SBA Office of Advocacy additional authorities and requires the office to establish standards for conducting a "regulatory flexibility analysis" during the rulemaking process. It improves transparency and ensures that agencies thoughtfully consider the impact of regulations on small businesses.

The legislation would also improve the accuracy of benefit-cost analysis by requiring agencies to consider the indirect impact of regulations on small business.

Finally, the legislation's provisions on periodic review of rules are in line with President Obama's Executive Order 13563, which requires agencies to conduct a retrospective analysis of existing rules to identify and modify rules in need of reform.

The legislation strengthens the regulatory process and builds upon the intent of Congress when the Regulatory Flexibility Act was originally enacted in 1980.

Thank you for your support of small business and we urge you to vote for the Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2011, H.R. 527.