



January 18, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan, and Minority Leader Pelosi,

On behalf of Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), a national construction industry trade association representing more than 21,000 members, I am writing to express our concerns with the implementation of the health insurance tax (HIT) for 2018 and the need to protect small businesses and their employees from the harmful and costly impact of this tax.

As ABC members continue to grow and build in so many of our communities, the HIT, which is estimated to raise premiums by more than \$500 per family in 2018, would be a massive setback for many of our small businesses and their employees. While we appreciate the one year suspension of HIT for 2019 as a part of the Extension of Continuing Appropriations Act, it is also critical that Congress acts to address the tax's implementation in 2018 and work to fully repeal this tax on hardworking Americans.

ABC, as a part of the Stop the HIT Coalition, applauds the critical legislation already introduced to provide small businesses with HIT relief for 2018, including H.R. 246, the Jobs and Premium Protection Act; S. 1859, the Healthcare Tax Relief Act; and S. 1978, the Small Business and Family Health Tax Relief Act.

ABC appreciates your attention to this important issue and urges Congress to act swiftly to provide relief from this ill-advised policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Swearingen', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kristen Swearingen
Vice President of Legislative & Political Affairs