

January 18, 2011

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Pelosi:

I write to share the strong support of the National Retail Federation (NRF) for H.R. 2, the "Repealing the Job Killing Health Care Law Act," and H. Res. 2, calling on the House committees of jurisdiction to report more job-friendly and cost-reducing health care reform legislation. Please note that NRF will **consider votes on the bill, resolution and related procedural motions as Key Retail Votes for our annual voting scorecard.**

The previous Congress' health care reform debate was highly and, in our view, unnecessarily divisive. The retail industry proposed (see NRF's Vision for Health Care Reform at www.nrf.com/healthcare) and strongly supported comprehensive health care reform that would reduce health care costs and extend coverage to the uninsured. Instead, Congress enacted – over the business community's strong objections – a reform law that will fail to reduce health care costs and will impose penalty mandates on employers in 2014 that are already deterring job growth today at the expense of tomorrow's economy. NRF strongly opposed and key voted against both the House and Senate-passed reform bills and the modified Senate bill that became law. We continue to oppose many elements of this law today.

NRF has worked closely with the Obama Administration where possible to help smooth implementation of the law. We appreciate the Administration's cooperative efforts to date. Nevertheless, we are convinced that the health reform law is in the whole misplaced and will hazard future job and economic growth. We strongly support this effort to repeal and replace the health reform law with more job-friendly health care reform that will concentrate first on reducing the cost of medical care.

The National Retail Federation will continue to seek comprehensive health care reform that will help the retail industry to voluntarily provide high quality health coverage to our employees in a more affordable and cost effective manner. We remain ready to work with you and other lawmakers toward building true bipartisan comprehensive health care reform once the health reform law is repealed and the hard but necessary work to replace it begins.

Sincerely,



E. Neil Trautwein
Vice President, Employee Benefits Policy Counsel

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