

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THOMAS J. DONOHUE
PRESIDENT AND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1615 H STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20062

May 10, 2010

The Honorable Martin O'Malley
The Governor of Maryland
State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Governor O'Malley:

Last week, the U.S. Chamber's National Chamber Foundation (NCF) and the *American Free Enterprise. Dream Big.* campaign, released the enclosed "Enterprising States" study during a bipartisan summit of governors, state chambers of commerce, and business people at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington DC. Co-chaired by Governors Tim Pawlenty and Phil Bredesen, the 2010 Governors Summit brought together these key groups of people to discuss how they can implement free enterprise-friendly policies to create jobs and enhance economic development and prosperity.

As a governor, you understand firsthand the challenge of reviving our economy, restoring the 7 million jobs lost during the current recession, and creating the 13 million new jobs that our growing nation will need over the next 10 years. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the more than three million businesses that it represents share the understanding of urgently addressing this jobs challenge and commissioned "Enterprising States" as a road map for best practices in economic development to help ensure a strong and growing private sector in the economic recovery.

This report found that states that pursue a course guided by free enterprise principles fare better economically than those that don't. By embracing many of the strategies at the core of our free enterprise system—competitive tax rates, open trade, and commonsense regulation—states are helping to jumpstart our economic recovery and create more jobs.

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The 2010 Governors Summit was a great success and this study was a central topic of discussion and of useful knowledge to media outlets throughout the country. We hope you find this study to be interesting and helpful in understanding what is going on at the state level to create jobs and economic growth. At the Chamber, we are more committed than ever to promoting jobs through free enterprise and education. Learn more at www.FreeEnterprise.com.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Donohue



The Hon. Margaret Spellings

Enclosure