

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

R. BRUCE JOSTEN
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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April 25, 2012

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Elijah Cummings
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Issa and Ranking Member Cummings:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region, supports the amendment in the nature of a substitute expected to be offered to H.R. 4078, the "Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act of 2012," which would prevent the most economically significant new regulations from going final and harming our economy until the national unemployment rate is equal to or less than 6 percent, or two years have elapsed.

Regulations are a necessary part of a complex society. But an unbalanced federal regulatory process has led to an unprecedented increase in major, economically significant regulations, some of which are harming the economy and inhibiting job creation. These regulations also threaten to erode the carefully calibrated constitutional system of checks and balances that is the foundation for the American system of government. Hastily-written regulations coming out in the health care, environmental and financial arenas are issued with little apparent regard for the dramatic impact they would have on employers and their ability to grow their businesses and hire more employees. These economically-significant rules would have a chilling effect on the entire U.S. economy.

H.R. 4078 would allow the thousands of minor, non-controversial regulations that "keep the lights on" to move forward, while placing an important check on the relatively small number of economically significant regulations that impact the business community's ability to compete.

The Chamber supports the Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act of 2012 and urges the Committee to favorably report this legislation to the full House for consideration.

Sincerely,



R. Bruce Josten

cc: The Members of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform