

August 28, 2013

The Honorable Mary Landrieu  
Chair, Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chair:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and how the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is helping to ensure that consistent, accurate information is being disseminated to small employers as they navigate the law.

SBA is committed to providing small businesses with all of the tools and resources they need to understand what the health care law means for them. We have taken a lead role in educating small businesses and small business stakeholders about the ACA. We are working closely with our partners at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the U.S. Department of Labor, and the U.S. Department of the Treasury/Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to ensure that small business owners have the clear and consistent information they need to make informed decisions about their insurance coverage options and other provisions of the law.

With respect to the specific requests outlined in your letter, we agree that a comprehensive website for employers that provides critical information about how the ACA benefits and impacts small businesses and their employees and families is essential. BusinessUSA ([BusinessUSA.gov](http://BusinessUSA.gov)) is leading the effort to provide streamlined ACA information and easy-to-use tools for businesses. In a few quick steps, business owners can use the health care tool at BusinessUSA to understand the essentials of new insurance options and other health care changes under the ACA.

BusinessUSA is a centralized, one-stop platform that uses technology to quickly connect businesses to the services and information relevant to them, regardless of where the information is located or which agency's website they go to for help. BusinessUSA does this by aggregating the ACA content and resources across Federal partners' sites like [SBA.gov/healthcare](http://SBA.gov/healthcare), [Healthcare.gov](http://Healthcare.gov), and [IRS.gov/aca](http://IRS.gov/aca) to ensure that business owners get consistent and easily accessible information, including relevant employer provisions, summaries and explanations of the law, training materials, FAQs,

and starting in October, access to enrollment information for the SHOP (Small Business Health Options Program) Marketplace. The health care tool at BusinessUSA has recently been updated and includes customized ACA information for businesses based on their location, size, and whether they currently offer insurance.

We also agree that technical support provided by a toll-free call center is critical for small employers. HHS and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently launched a toll-free call center specifically to serve small businesses interested in the SHOP Marketplace. SBA has been working closely with HHS and CMS to help ensure that the call center representatives are knowledgeable on all small business issues under the law. These representatives can field questions on a range of employer provisions, including the small business health care tax credit and employer shared responsibility requirements, and can direct business owners to the appropriate resources.

We share your commitment to supporting small employers in Louisiana and throughout the country as they work to comply with the ACA. I appreciate your input and support as we continue to provide critical resources to ensure small businesses have the information they need to fully understand the law and help give millions more Americans access to affordable health insurance coverage.

Again, thank you for your letter, and I look forward to working with you as the Administration continues to implement the ACA. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further thoughts or concerns.

With warmest regards,

Karen G. Mills