



June 6, 2012

United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), a national association with 74 chapters representing 22,000 merit shop construction and construction-related firms, I am writing to express our strong support for the *Health Care Cost Reduction Act of 2012* (H.R. 436), which is expected to come to the House floor for a vote this week.

Throughout the health care debate, ABC has advocated for policies that reduce the cost of health care for employers and their employees. H.R. 436 would repeal two onerous tax increases included in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)—preventing additional costs on businesses and their employees.

Specifically, H.R. 436 would repeal the new 2.3 percent medical device tax, which will be passed down to the consumer through higher premiums, and the prohibition on using tax-preferred funds from Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) and Flexible Spending Arrangements (FSAs) to purchase over-the-counter medications.

ABC has always advocated for HSAs and FSAs, allowing more small business owners to obtain affordable health coverage for themselves and their employees. Prohibiting the use of these accounts for over-the-counter medications has increased health care costs and added additional burdens on individuals.

We urge you to support H.R. 436 when it comes to the House floor for a vote this week and we look forward to working with you to fully repeal the massive health care law that only has served to hurt small businesses and increase premiums for millions of Americans.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey G. Burr
Vice President, Federal Affairs