

In the latest effort to lift the red tape burden off of small businesses, the House has passed legislation, [H.R. 2250](#), to overturn the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Boiler MACT regulations. These regulations would require any entity or business that uses a "boiler," – from restaurants to energy plants to schools and churches – to do a costly and unnecessary retrofit to meet new environmental standards. The EPA pushed forward with the regulations despite warnings from the Small Business Administration that they would harm small businesses and a Department of Commerce analysis estimating that the regulations could eliminate as many as 60,000 jobs nationwide. Northern California's biomass industry would be particularly hard hit. At a time of economic hardship, these regulations would only worsen the already unfavorable environment for job creation in our nation with only marginal environmental benefits.

Eliminating costly federal regulations that undermine job creation is a vital step toward creating a positive foundation for economic growth and hiring. In addition to stopping the boiler regulations, the House has passed legislation to put the brakes on pending regulations that would restrict electricity, cement, and coal production and cost jobs in those industries. These measures now await consideration in the Senate. I strongly supported each bill and will continue to everything I can to reduce the costly regulatory burdens that our hurting our small businesses.

Below you can read my remarks on the House floor in favor of H.R. 2250. You can watch them [here](#)

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"Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2250, which will protect American jobs from the EPA's unnecessary and economically destructive Boiler MACT regulations. At this time of high unemployment and economic hardship, the EPA wants to require costly retrofitting of boilers at small businesses, energy plants, schools and churches in the Northern California congressional district I represent and across the nation. This regulation is another example of the Obama Administration standing in the way of job growth. The Department of Commerce estimates that the 276 pages of federal regulations could eliminate as many as 60,000 jobs nationwide. The EPA's own factsheet says that implementing these rules will cost more than \$5 billion. In August of 2010, the Small Business Administration explicitly warned the EPA that these regulations were too extreme and would harm small businesses. Unfortunately, the EPA did not heed this warning.

"In addition, the boiler regulation will impose substantial and unnecessary costs for Americans

to use biomass energy, an essential part of job growth in Northern California. Biomass is a clean and renewable energy source that could help increase our energy supplies and manage our overgrown and fire-prone forests, while creating much-needed jobs. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to protect jobs and ensure that this costly regulation does not go into effect.”