

May 31, 2023

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
2462 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-3305

Dear Representative Foxx,

On behalf of the NC Chamber, I am writing to you today in support of the Association Health Plans Act (HR 2868), which would expand health care options and lower costs for small businesses. It also makes an essential change to a 2018 Department of Labor rule redefining the definition of “employer,” and therefore enabling the creation of AHPs.

Employers of all sizes want to do right by their people, but right now, particularly for small and even some medium-size businesses, health care is unaffordable. As health care costs have increased over time and smaller companies continue to recover financially from the pandemic, it has left fewer plan options and narrower provider networks, leaving individuals to pay more for reduced benefits.

We support AHPs as they allow smaller groups to gain regulatory and economic benefits of a large group plan—enabling them to band together to manage risk and lower costs. This provides businesses with significant savings when compared to a commercial small group market plan.

The NC Chamber supports new legislation such as HR 2868 that will meaningfully establish association health plans in our state, as we know they will provide a valuable and essential coverage option, particularly for small businesses who need this health care option to care for their people.

I, on behalf of North Carolina’s business community, thank you for your time and consideration and hope to see this important piece of legislation advance through the legislative process.

Sincerely,



Gary J. Salamido
President and CEO