



## **The 2010 Health Reform Law Works for Missouri's Small Employers!**

*May 31, 2010*

**Health reform legislation enacted by Congress gives Missouri's small businesses and not for profit organizations – and their workers - more security and choices for affordable health care coverage. Because of the health reform law:**

- **79,900 small businesses or not for profits could receive a tax credit** to offset their cost of premiums.
  - Small businesses eligible for these tax credits employ more than 303,000 workers.
  - Nationally, one-third of the uninsured, 13 million people, work for businesses with fewer than 100 workers.
- **Small companies will be better able to attract and retain employees. Workers will be able to move throughout the workforce with a guarantee** that affordable health coverage will be available, regardless of employer, full time or part time status, or income.
- **495,000 uninsured Missourians will gain health coverage. Workers with insurance are more likely to get preventive care and treatment when they need it. A healthy work force can increase productivity.**
  - More than 80 percent of the uninsured are in working families. Two thirds of the uninsured are from families with one or more full-time workers and 14 percent are from families with part-time workers.
- **Insurance companies will not be able to increase insurance rates** because employees have a pre-existing condition, genetic conditions, a history of prior insurance claims, are women, or because they do work considered dangerous.
- **Small businesses will get the same price benefits on insurance premiums as large employers when insurance “exchanges” are set up and small businesses’ employees become part of a large pool.**
- **Businesses and individuals will have a guarantee that at least 80 percent of the cost of insurance premiums will be spent on health care** rather than advertising, administration or profits for investors. If less is spent, insurance companies will have to give rebates to consumers.
- **Small businesses may benefit from increased demand for goods and services.**
  - **Missouri's middle class workers will get the largest tax cut for health care in history** by giving tax credits and cost-sharing assistance to low- and middle-income Americans in the exchanges. Their increased income will stimulate increased demand for goods and services.