Representative Sean Patrick Maloney
18th Congressional District

2013

Hudson Valley Small Business Survey

Investing in Small Businesses and Creating Jobs in the Hudson Valley

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Dear Friend,

Since taking office, I've been working hard to make government work better for small businesses, families, and working folks throughout the Hudson Valley. I've traveled across our district to meet with hundreds of community business owners. I've also held many "Congress at Your Company" events, hosting town halls at the region's large and small employers. We've got even more events planned for the future.

Now, I want to hear from YOU!

I've attached a survey so I can hear about the challenges our small businesses face and what you need to help you grow and prosper.

I know how hard it is to run a business and create good, New York jobs. After I left the Clinton White House I built my own company from scratch. I am committed to partnering with you to find solutions to help local businesses expand and create good paying jobs. You deserve a good partner in Washington.

I hope you take a moment and fill out this important survey, and please let me know if I can ever be of assistance to you or your business in Washington or home in the Hudson Valley.

Sincerely,
Representative Sean Patrick Maloney

HUDSON VALLEY SMALL BUSINESS SURVEY

Q1. Which best describes the industry of your business?

- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Construction and Contracting
- ☐ Financial Services
- ☐ Healthcare or IT
- ☐ Housing and Real Estate
- ☐ Manufacturing
- ☐ Professional Services
- ☐ Retail/Sales
- ☐ Other: _____

Q2. How would you describe how your company is doing?

- ☐ Very good
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Okay
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Very Poor
- ☐ Other: _____

Q3. How many full time workers are currently employed at your business?

- ○ 0-5
- ○ 6-10
- ○ 11-25
- ○ 26-50
- ○ 51-100
- ○ 101+

Q4. How would you describe your business's profit over the past year?

- ○ Increased
- ○ Decreased
- ○ Same
- ○ Other: _____

Q5. How many full time workers have you hired in the past year?

- ○ 0
- ○ 1
- ○ 2
- ○ 3-10
- ○ 11-25
- ○ 26-50
- ○ 50+

Q6. Which best describes your hiring plan for the next year?

- ☐ Lay Off
- ☐ Hiring
- ☐ Furloughs
- ☐ None of the above
- ☐ Other: _____

Q7. What are the biggest issues facing your business and stopping you from hiring more employees?

- ☐ Burdensome federal regulations
- ☐ Burdensome state regulations
- ☐ Competition from larger corporations
- ☐ Concerned about the economy
- ☐ Lack of demand for services
- ☐ Lack of qualified candidates
- ☐ Rising healthcare costs
- ☐ Other: _____

Q8. Which of the following do you feel would best help you grow your business?

- ☐ Decreasing burdensome regulations
- ☐ Increasing access to education
- ☐ Investing in local infrastructure or more transportation options for employees
- ☐ More access to capital
- ☐ Revitalizing our cities and towns
- ☐ Tax credits for hiring new employees
- ☐ Other: _____

Q9. Have you applied for a small business loan in the past year?

- ☐ Yes, I received loan
- ☐ Yes, I did not receive loan
- ☐ No, I did not apply
- ☐ Access to capital or loan modification

Q10. In what areas do you feel you could use assistance? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Accounting or tax preparation
- ☐ Assistance implementing the Affordable Care Act
- ☐ Employee training and education
- ☐ Management/Human Resources
- ☐ General business assistance
- ☐ Grant assistance
- ☐ Regulatory assistance
- ☐ Other: _____

Q11. What do you think about legislation that provides tax incentives for businesses to hire new employees?

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't Know

Q12. What do you think about legislation that provides incentives for businesses to hire veterans?

- No Opinion
- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't Know
- No Opinion

Q13. What do you think is going to be the impact of the implementation of the Affordable Care Act on your business?

- Positive
- Negative
- Don't Know

Q14. Which of the following best describes your opinion on our education system?

- We need to increase investment in education
- We need to decrease investment in education
- No opinion
- Don't know

Q15. Which regulations are impacting your business?

- Burdensome tax preparation and paperwork
- Compliance with environmental regulations
- Financial Services regulations
- Implementation of the Affordable Care Act
- Workplace fairness legislation
- Other: _____

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

1. What is the biggest challenge facing your business?

2. Does your business use any federal programs? If yes, which ones?

3. Has your company benefited from any federal small business assistance programs? If yes, please list the programs.

4. If you feel your business is affected by federal regulations please list the regulations here.

5. Have you ever contacted a state or local official for assistance? If yes, please list what type of help you were seeking.

6. What do you think the federal government can do in the next year that would be beneficial for your business?