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## Small Businesses Should Be Able to Buy Health Care Together Without Government Interference

Health care is undergoing a transformation in America today. The one-size-fits-all, top-down bureaucracies of the past are given way to innovative, consumer-driven health care models that encourage choice, common sense, and cost efficiency.

One such piece of legislation that strongly encourages this move is HR 525, the "Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2005." This bill would create voluntary interstate allegiances of small businesses to purchase health insurance. These "association health plans" would do a lot to help curb excessive spending and waste in the health care sector, and lead to a more consumer-driven health care system.

## ATR is strongly supportive of HR 525 and may rate a vote for the bill in our annual "Hero of the Taxpayer" ratings.

Allowing small businesses to pool together across state lines would put our nation's entrepreneurs on the same footing as big business, big unions, and big government. It would allow small business owners to get the best possible insurance premium rates on health savings accounts products and other forms of consumer-driven health care. Finally, it will strike a blow against the multitude of insurance mandates that litter state health insurance regulations.

## ATR MAY RATE THIS VOTE IN OUR ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL RATINGS