January 4, 2012

SMALL BUSINESS SAYS FIND THE WIN-WIN

Our message to Congress and the President upon their return to Washington: “It is one thing to stand up for one’s principles and another to let them stand in the way. Find win-win solutions.”

We know that one of the first topics of discussion will be the imminent expiration of the “payroll” tax relief. The Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) income thresholds “patch” has expired already, as have other credits and deductions as the R&E credit. At the end of 2012, some temporary tax relief provisions of huge interest to small business such as the lower top individual marginal rate, the estate tax relief, the increased direct expense allowance and lower capital gains rates expire.

What’s the plan? Or, will you take us to the precipice of stalemate again and again?

There are also some pending improvements to the Regulatory Flexibility Act and the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act, the bulwarks of the small business’ protection against unreasonable regulations. Can you address those sooner than later?

Small businesses thirst for consistency and certainty in economic and regulatory policy. We call on the Congress and the President to set us on a clear course early in the year. How about a Small Business Peace of Mind Guarantee to start the New Year?

The Small Business Legislative Council is a 35 year old permanent, independent coalition of over 50 trade and professional associations that share a common commitment to the future of small business. Our members represent the interests of small businesses in such diverse economic sectors as manufacturing, retailing, distribution, professional and technical services, construction, transportation, and agriculture. Our policies are developed through a consensus among our membership. Individual associations may express their own views.