



TENNESSEE CHAMBER of Commerce & Industry

TENNESSEE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

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Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry Announces Support for New Manufacturing Regulatory Reform Movement

Rethink Red Tape Coalition Formed to Examine the Impact Regulations Have on Small Manufacturers and to Provide Small Business Owners a Platform to Drive Smarter Regulation

Nashville, TN — In response to the growing number of government regulations that unfairly burden America's small businesses, manufacturers and startups, the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry, which also serves as the Tennessee Manufacturers Association, is adding its support to the newly launched **Rethink Red Tape** coalition and advocacy campaign, a project of the **National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)** and **Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council (SBE Council)**, in partnership with the International Franchise Association and Women Impacting Public Policy.

The multimillion-dollar campaign, aimed at Tennessee state and federal lawmakers, will highlight the challenges mounting regulations pose to small businesses and small manufacturers and empower entrepreneurs, small business employees and key stakeholders to advocate legislative reforms that will lead to smarter regulations that help small manufacturers in Tennessee thrive.

Bradley Jackson, Tennessee Chamber interim president, noted *"Manufacturing has a long and proud history in Tennessee and is a major driver of economic growth and job creation. Each year more and more regulations are placed on manufacturers harming our competitiveness. We need this type of reform and we look forward working with Tennessee manufacturers in fighting to make this a reality."*

[Educational resources and facts](#) showing the impact today's regulatory environment has on the small business economy are featured on www.RethinkRedTape.com, alongside [personal stories from small business owners](#) who know the burden of overregulation firsthand.

Jay Timmons, NAM president and CEO, issued the following statement on the project's launch:

*"Smart, transparent and effective regulations are important to a successful system of free enterprise. However, manufacturers today bear a disproportionate share of the burden of regulatory compliance costs, and that's costing us jobs and opportunity. Manufacturers are committed to protecting our health and safety, but it's time to improve the regulatory process and start listening to America's small businesses. With efforts like **Rethink Red Tape**, we hope to make these important reforms a reality."*

Karen Kerrigan, SBE Council president and CEO, issued the following statement on the project's launch:

*"The men and women who own and operate American startups say complex and expensive regulations are among the biggest challenges they face when starting or growing their businesses or creating new jobs. Through **Rethink Red Tape**, we hope to change that."*

With [more than 56 million American jobs](#) dependent on small firms and the vast majority of manufacturing companies qualifying as small businesses, our nation's broken regulatory system is a threat to U.S. economic health and U.S. manufacturing. It also harms our ability to meet policy objectives efficiently and effectively, such as protecting public health, worker safety and the environment. **Rethink Red Tape** exists to reform the regulatory process and make it fairer, clearer and less obstructive to innovation and small manufacturing growth. Solutions promoted through **Rethink Red Tape** will reflect these five guiding principles:

- **Meaningful public and small business engagement in the rulemaking process**
- **Prioritization of unbiased, scientific information in rulemaking**
- **Consideration of public costs and benefits**
- **Transparency and clarity in how rules will be enforced and how compliance can be attained**
- **Regular evaluation of whether regulations are working**

Rethink Red Tape is a multiyear campaign that will educate Americans about the impact regulations have on small businesses and small manufacturers and about solutions that will lead to regulatory reform.

Small manufacturers, their employees and members of the public who would like to share their own regulatory experiences through **Rethink Red Tape** are encouraged to [join](#).

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Founded in 1912, the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry also serves as the Tennessee Manufacturing Association. With statewide partnerships with business and local chambers the Chamber works in the halls of our Legislature on behalf of business. For more information, please visit www.tnchamber.org

***Rethink Red Tape** is a diverse coalition of organizations and individuals believing the federal government's regulatory process must be reformed so important goals, such as public health, environmental protection and consumer safety, are better balanced with the need to encourage more entrepreneurship and economic growth. Through an education and advocacy campaign, Rethink Red Tape will examine the impact regulations have on small businesses, American communities and the national economy and provide entrepreneurs a voice and platform to advocate reforms in the regulatory process. For more information, please visit www.RethinkRedTape.com. Follow on Twitter: [@RethinkRedTape](https://twitter.com/RethinkRedTape).*