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A Congressional Update on Small Business and Jobs Issues

Congressman Sestak wants to hear from you!



If you have a question or issue, or would like to share your opinion, please feel free to contact or visit the Washington, D.C. Office or District Office in Media.

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Visit my website: www.sestak.house.gov

Congressman Joe Sestak invites you to his 7th Congressional District Business Procurement Summit

Monday, December 3, 2007
Springfield Country Club

400 W. Sproul Road

Springfield, Pennsylvania 19064

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Featuring:

- Government Contracting Agencies
- Large Business Exhibitors
- Sessions on:
 - Introduction to Government Marketing
 - How to get on and use the Federal Supply Schedule
 - Government Subcontracting
 - Writing Government Contract Proposals

The purpose of the Business Procurement Summit is to increase and enhance government procurement opportunities in Pennsylvania's 7th Congressional District and the Philadelphia region through education and networking.

*For more information, visit our website:
<http://www.sestak-procurement-summit.org/> and/or call
Jason Marmon at 610-892-8623, District Office.*

Congressman Joe Sestak



Joe Sestak talks with a local business leader about the economy.

“Our local economy is dependent upon the strength of small businesses...which create 70% of all new jobs in our region. That's why I've made expanding small businesses a top priority.”

– Congressman Joe Sestak
Representative from Pennsylvania's 7th District
and Vice Chairman of the House Small
Business Committee



Joe Sestak talks with constituents about small business and jobs issues.

JOE SESTAK

Fighting to Protect Small Businesses... Creating More Jobs For Our Region

Small businesses in Southeast Pennsylvania are in jeopardy.

Consider the following disturbing trends:

- In six years, Delaware County (85% of the 7th Congressional District) has lost 762 private establishments and 22% of its manufacturing establishments.
- Small businesses in the 7th Congressional District receive only 6.7% of federal government contracts, despite a federal government goal of 23% for small businesses.

Joe Sestak took a leadership position on the House Small Business Committee to influence Congressional action on behalf of small businesses...and jobs!

Joe sought and won the Vice Chairmanship on Congress' top committee overseeing small business policy; and implemented a series of acts to protect the health of small businesses in the District and nationwide; and held three economic development summits in the District.

In the first year, Joe Sestak has already passed three bills in the House of Representatives to help small businesses:

- **The Sestak Amendment to the Small Business Fairness in Contracting Act** which stops the U.S. government from unfairly "bundling" small contracts into "mega-contracts," a practice that makes it harder for small businesses to compete due to the size of the "mega-contracts."
- **The SBA* Entrepreneurial Development Programs Act** to provide grants and entrepreneurial tools for critical management and technical assistance to small business owners.
- **The SBA* Trade Programs Act** to provide trade assistance to small businesses to increase their exports, protect against unfair trade practices and provide assistance to businesses dislocated by trade.

Joe's introduced or co-sponsored a series of other small business measures:

- **The Small Business Lending Improvements Act** increases capital access to small business owners.
- **The Small Business Fairness in Contracting Act** improves small businesses' contracting opportunities in the government sector by increasing the goal for their share of federal contracts to 30%.
- **The Veterans' Programs Act** requires the SBA* to increase veteran outreach with more veterans outreach business centers and face-to-face counseling resources.
- **The Women's Business Programs Act** provides financial assistance for the benefit of women-owned businesses.
- **The Small Energy Efficient Business Act** provides incentives and loans to purchase energy efficient and energy-saving technologies, and increase investment in renewable fuel technology.
- **The Microloan Amendments and Modernization Act** reduces barriers to potential borrowers who seek small loans during the early stages of small businesses.
- **The Small Business Investment Expansion Act** expands the Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) program by increasing the maximum amount of debt an eligible company can carry to stimulate investment.
- **The Sestak Amendment to the Department of Defense authorization bill** requires market research to be conducted by the Department of Defense prior to awarding contracts over \$1 million to ensure small business opportunities with cost-effectiveness.

...and Joe's working on measures to encourage better training for the workforce:

- **The 10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds — Science and Math Scholarship Act** addresses the nation's critical shortage of certified science and math teachers by offering scholarships to science, math and engineering students who commit to becoming science or math teachers upon completion of their degrees.
- **The "Dual Enrollment" Initiative** would allow high school students the chance to pursue dual enrollment programs with career and technical colleges to prepare them for trade careers.
- **The Silver Scholarship program** provides \$1,000 education awards to seniors who volunteer in their communities as tutors, mentors, and caregivers.

* Small Business Administration

