# SMALL BUSINESS TAX CUT ACT OF 2012

# The Small Business Tax Cut: Good News for Georgia

The best way to boost economic growth and get people back to work is through small business growth. Over the past 17 years, small businesses with fewer than 500 employees have generated 65% of the new jobs in this country.<sup>1</sup> Yet under the current tax code, small businesses are faced with enormous burdens that are sapping their capital. Irrespective of whether they pay taxes at the corporate or individual level, small businesses can face up to a 35% federal tax rate.

H.R. 9, the Small Business Tax Cut, will help small business owners retain more capital, invest in their businesses and create more jobs. Under the proposal, small businesses would be allowed to deduct 20% of their income from taxes irrespective of how they are organized, up to 50% of their W-2 wages (in some cases distributions made to partners may be treated as W-2 wages for these purposes). So, whether you are organized as a corporation or you are one of the 75% of small businesses that operate as a pass-through, you will benefit from this new deduction.

<u>How it Works</u>: For simplicity, consider the example of a small business that under current law would pay a 35% federal tax on \$100 of income, resulting in a \$35 tax bill. Under the House Republican proposal, the small business would be able to deduct 20% of its income from tax (20% of \$100 = \$20), subject to the 50% W-2 wage limitation. The small business would then pay the same 35% tax on the remaining \$80, resulting in a \$28 tax bill. Under the House Republican proposal, the small business immediately saves \$7 in federal taxes.

The non-partisan Joint Committee on Taxation has estimated that H.R. 9 will benefit over 22 million small business employers across the United States reducing their taxes by almost \$46 billion. H.R. 9 is consistent with the budget plan just adopted by the House and was part of the Pledge to America.

## What the Small Business Tax Cut Means for Georgia:

As of 2009, in Georgia, there are 167,864 small businesses with between 1 and 500 employees employing 1,533,900 individuals.<sup>2</sup>

The top three industries by employment:

- Over 201,000 employees in accommodation and food services
- Over 196,000 employees in health care and social assistance
- Over 144,000 employees in retail trade

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy. <u>http://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/sbfaq.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy. 2011 Small Business Profile for the States and Territories. http://www.sba.gov/advocacy/848/41391

Of the small businesses in Georgia with between 1 and 500 employees:

• 26,220 are women-owned and they employ 184,995 individuals<sup>3</sup>

In addition to these small businesses, in 2009 Georgia was home to 655,248 sole proprietorships.<sup>4</sup> Many of these self-employed small businesses will also benefit from the 20% Small Business Tax Cut.

It is not just a cliché that getting small businesses growing again is the key to our economic recovery. Consider that:

- From 2005 to 2008, small business created a net total of 133,271 new jobs in Georgia
- But from 2008 to 2009 a net total of 121,510 small business jobs were lost.<sup>5</sup>

### The Small Business Tax Cut is Supported By:

Academy of General Dentistry American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry American Association of Oral Maxillofacial Surgeons American Association of Orthodontists American Dental Association American Wholesale Marketers Association American Supply Association Associated General Contractors **Coalition of Franchisee Associations** Dunkin' Donuts Independent Franchise Owners Independent Organization of Little Caesars® Franchisees Independent Electrical Contractors Brokers of America Small Business and Entrepreneurship Council Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute International Sign Association Long John Silver's Franchisee Association National Association of Convenience Stores National Beer Wholesalers Association National Franchisee Association National Precast Concrete Association National Solid Waste Management Association World Golf Foundation Forging Industry Association North American Association of SUBWAY® Franchisees. Inc.

Acushnet

American Academy of Periodontology Golf Course Superintendents Association of America American College of Prosthodontists American Truckers Association Americans For Tax Reform

Burger King

Club Managers Association of America EA Independent Franchisee Association, LLC Heating, Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI) Independent Insurance Agents & Hispanic Dental Association Industrial Fasteners Association International Franchise Association KFC National Association of Chemical Distributors National Association of Home Builders National Council of Chain Restaurants National Golf Course Owners Association

National Ready Mixed Concrete Association National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association Professional Golfers Association of America Truck Renting and Leasing Association

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. Survey of Business Owners. 2007. <u>http://www.census.gov/econ/sbo/#CBO</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. 2009 Nonemployer Statistics. <u>http://censtats.census.gov/cgi-bin/nonemployer/nonsect.pl</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy. 2011 Small Business Profile for the States and Territories. http://www.sba.gov/advocacy/848/41391