

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Small Business
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6515

NOTICE OF HEARING

May 9, 2012

1:00 P.M. 2360 Rayburn House Office Building

TO: Members, Committee on Small Business

FROM: Sam Graves, Chairman

DATE: Wednesday, May 2, 2012

The Committee on Small Business will meet for a hearing titled, *Running on Empty: The Effects of High Gasoline Prices on Small Businesses*. The hearing is scheduled to begin at **1:00 p.m. on May 9, 2012 in Room 2360 of the Rayburn House Office Building**.

Persistently high gasoline prices are draining family budgets and putting increased stress on small businesses. According to a recent survey by the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Council, 72 percent of small businesses report they are affected by high energy prices. Of these businesses, 41 percent report that they have altered hiring plans and another 22% report reducing employee hours. Small businesses are the historic source of new job creation in the economy, but are currently facing many challenges, including the burden of high fuel prices, that inhibit their ability to invest, grow and hire new workers. The hearing will study the relationship between high gasoline prices and small businesses.

A staff briefing will be held on Monday, May 7, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 2360 of the Rayburn House Office Building.

If you or your staff has questions, please call Mark Ratto, professional staff with the Committee at 5-5821.