



April 17, 2020

The Honorable Mark Levine
Virginia House of Delegates
Pocahontas Building, Room E409
900 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Delegate Levine,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce strongly reiterates our support for Senate Bill 861, sponsored by Senator Monty Mason, which would allow small businesses in Virginia to provide affordable, comprehensive health care benefits to their employees. This bill passed the General Assembly last month with bipartisan support. Benefits consortia provide small business and their employees with broad health care access, deliver lower premiums, ensure quality coverage, offer strong consumer protections, and maintain financial security and solvency.

Unfortunately Governor Northam has recommended a re-enactment clause amendment, which delays implementation by requiring the General Assembly to reconsider the bill next year. We urge you to reject the Governor's amendment and insist that he sign the legislation as approved by the General Assembly.

Small businesses – and Virginia workers – cannot afford to wait another year for the creation of benefits consortia and the health care coverage they provide, especially in light of the current COVID-19 outbreak and economic outlook. As the Commonwealth recovers from the current economic downturn, it's critical that small businesses and their employees have access to quality health care coverage with expanded access and lower premiums.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Bates". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kate Bates
President & CEO

CC: Arlington County General Assembly delegation



April 17, 2020

The Honorable Patrick A. Hope
Virginia House of Delegates
Pocahontas Building, Room E222
900 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Delegate Hope,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce strongly reiterates our support for Senate Bill 861, sponsored by Senator Monty Mason, which would allow small businesses in Virginia to provide affordable, comprehensive health care benefits to their employees. This bill passed the General Assembly last month with bipartisan support. Benefits consortia provide small business and their employees with broad health care access, deliver lower premiums, ensure quality coverage, offer strong consumer protections, and maintain financial security and solvency.

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President & CEO

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April 17, 2020

The Honorable Richard C. "Rip" Sullivan
Virginia House of Delegates
Pocahontas Building, Room E220
900 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Delegate Sullivan,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce strongly reiterates our support for Senate Bill 861, sponsored by Senator Monty Mason, which would allow small businesses in Virginia to provide affordable, comprehensive health care benefits to their employees. This bill passed the General Assembly last month with bipartisan support. Benefits consortia provide small business and their employees with broad health care access, deliver lower premiums, ensure quality coverage, offer strong consumer protections, and maintain financial security and solvency.

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April 17, 2020

The Honorable Alfonso H. Lopez
Virginia House of Delegates
Pocahontas Building, Room E223
900 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Delegate Lopez,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce strongly reiterates our support for Senate Bill 861, sponsored by Senator Monty Mason, which would allow small businesses in Virginia to provide affordable, comprehensive health care benefits to their employees. This bill passed the General Assembly last month with bipartisan support. Benefits consortia provide small business and their employees with broad health care access, deliver lower premiums, ensure quality coverage, offer strong consumer protections, and maintain financial security and solvency.

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President & CEO

CC: Arlington County General Assembly delegation



April 17, 2020

The Honorable Adam P. Ebbin
Senate of Virginia
Pocahontas Building, Room E520
900 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Senator Ebbin,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce strongly reiterates our support for Senate Bill 861, sponsored by Senator Monty Mason, which would allow small businesses in Virginia to provide affordable, comprehensive health care benefits to their employees. This bill passed the General Assembly last month with bipartisan support. Benefits consortia provide small business and their employees with broad health care access, deliver lower premiums, ensure quality coverage, offer strong consumer protections, and maintain financial security and solvency.

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President & CEO

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April 17, 2020

The Honorable Barbara A. Favola
Senate of Virginia
Pocahontas Building, Room E610
900 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Senator Favola,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce strongly reiterates our support for Senate Bill 861, sponsored by Senator Monty Mason, which would allow small businesses in Virginia to provide affordable, comprehensive health care benefits to their employees. This bill passed the General Assembly last month with bipartisan support. Benefits consortia provide small business and their employees with broad health care access, deliver lower premiums, ensure quality coverage, offer strong consumer protections, and maintain financial security and solvency.

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President & CEO

CC: Arlington County General Assembly delegation



April 17, 2020

The Honorable Janet D. Howell
Senate of Virginia
Pocahontas Building, Room E509
900 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Senator Howell,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce strongly reiterates our support for Senate Bill 861, sponsored by Senator Monty Mason, which would allow small businesses in Virginia to provide affordable, comprehensive health care benefits to their employees. This bill passed the General Assembly last month with bipartisan support. Benefits consortia provide small business and their employees with broad health care access, deliver lower premiums, ensure quality coverage, offer strong consumer protections, and maintain financial security and solvency.

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