

Hayes

Chris FYI Pam

JIMMY HAYES
7TH DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2432 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1807
(202) 225-2031

DISTRICT OFFICES:
109 EAST VERMILION
LAFAYETTE, LA 70501
(313) 233-4773

901 LAKESHORE DRIVE
SUITE 402
LAKE CHARLES, LA 70601
(313) 433-1613

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-1807

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COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY
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NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. Steve Edelstein
National Health Care Task Force
Room 16
The Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Edelstein:

I write to you today to request your assistance regarding any available data about 1) the economic analysis used by the National Health Care Task Force to arrive at the subsidy numbers for small businesses, as well as 2) the economic analysis by which the task force chose the self-funding exclusion of 5,000 employees. Chuck Chaitovitz of my staff has requested this information on multiple occasions but has not received a response.

Because 96% of the businesses in my state are firms with 100 employees or less and as South Louisiana relies heavily on these small businessmen for economic growth and job creation, this information will be critical for me to make my decision on the self-funding issues of health care reform.

An expedient reply would be much appreciated. Again, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jimmy Hayes
Member of Congress

JH:gac
cc : The First Lady Hillary Clinton
Mr. Ira Magaziner
Mr. Howard Pastor

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