August 3, 2011

Dear Senator Johnson,

On behalf of more than 1.8 million Americans for Prosperity activists in all 50 states, I write in support of your proposal to reinvigorate the American economy. Last week, you and 20 of your colleagues introduced S. 1438, the Regulatory Moratorium and Jobs Preservation Act. Your bill would halt damaging regulatory actions until unemployment falls below 7.7 percent.

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The measure eases burdens on American businesses – those directly responsible for innovation, job creation, and economic growth in this country – in a number of ways. It temporarily halts the rising tide of red tape that ensnares American business owners in hours of paperwork, allowing them to focus on growing their business instead of the growing volumes of the *Federal Register*. It snaps the streak of rapidly expanding regulatory compliance costs, a "hidden tax" that in 2008 cost American businesses more than \$1.75 trillion. And it ends the confusion and uncertainty about the future that jeopardizes new investment.

There is no doubt that in some cases new regulation is necessary – for example, in response to national emergencies or when there is wide, bipartisan consensus. Your moratorium accounts for this by allowing narrowly-crafted exceptions in only these cases. But even President Obama agrees that the nation's regulatory regime needs to be addressed to "fix any rules in place that are an unnecessary burden on businesses."

Unfortunately, the administration has been all talk thus far. The regulatory onslaught continues from agencies like the FCC, the EPA, and the NLRB – often without approval from Congress. AFP has profiled much of this regulatory overreach at ObamaChart.com. It is time for action to relieve regulatory burdens on American businesses.

AFP is proud to support S. 1438, the Regulatory Moratorium and Jobs Preservation Act. I urge your colleagues to support its passage, and I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

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James Valvo Director of Government Affairs – Americans for Prosperity

Americans for Prosperity (AFP) is a nationwide organization of citizen-leaders committed to advancing every individual's right to economic freedom and opportunity. AFP believes reducing the size and intrusiveness of government is the best way to promote individual productivity and prosperity for all Americans. AFP educates and engages citizens to support restraining state and federal government growth and returning government to its constitutional limits. AFP is more than 1.8 million activists strong, with activists in all 50 states. AFP has 31 state chapters and affiliates. More than 85,000 Americans in all 50 states have made a financial contribution to AFP or AFP Foundation. For more information, visit <u>www.americansforprosperity.org</u> Americans for Prosperity does not support or oppose candidates for public office.