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Email Subject: Letter to the Editor

Hi,

I'm submitting the following letter on behalf of the CEO of the National Association of Health Underwriters, Janet Trautwein. Is there any chance you might be able to run it?

Best,  
Kelly

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Kelly Loussedes  
National Association of Health Underwriters  
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Dear Editor,

Illinois officials were right to preserve the state health insurance market's longstanding definition of "small business" as one with 50 or fewer employees ("Obamacare small-business fix could keep some premiums from rising," Oct. 16). The decision will save businesses and workers a substantial amount of money.

The federal Affordable Care Act intended to expand that definition to include those with 100 or fewer employees. That would have increased premiums for two-thirds of these mid-sized firms by an average of 18 percent. Some would have seen premiums rise by as much as 35 percent.<sup>1</sup>

Fortunately, Congress has warded off that outcome by changing the law to allow states to decide who will be in their small-group markets. Other states looking to make insurance more affordable for small businesses should follow Illinois's lead.

Sincerely,

Janet Trautwein  
Executive Vice President and CEO  
National Association of Health Underwriters  
1212 New York Ave. NW, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20005

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.uschamber.com/press-release/us-chamber-applauds-bipartisan-cooperation-between-congress-and-white-house-key>