

Generating jobs and strengthening the economy is Congressman Blumenauer's top priority in Congress.

The most recent job numbers are starting to move in the right direction: numbers indicate that the labor market has begun to stabilize. Nationally, private firms have added an average of 111,000 jobs each month this year, and during the last quarter job creation was even faster at 128,000 per month. Other indicators are improving as well -- the workweek is lengthening and weekly earnings are increasing. But Oregonians continue to struggle with a sluggish economy that is still not generating jobs at the rate the nation needs to recover.



Congressman Blumenauer has been working with colleagues on a number of proposals to cut taxes for small businesses and invest in America's infrastructure and clean energy resources, building on the [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act](#) that provided tax relief for working Americans. These initiatives have put millions of Americans back to work and the economy on the path to a sustainable recovery.

[View a map detailing Recovery Act Projects in the Third Congressional District.](#)

Congressman Blumenauer supports President Obama's American Jobs Act that would start to modernize America's infrastructure while putting our trades men and women back to work. The American Jobs Act would also cut payroll taxes and expenses for businesses that hire and invest.

Small businesses are critical to a robust American economy and play a key role in its recovery. They drive innovation and create jobs; in fact, small businesses created over 65% of the new

jobs created in the country during the last 15 years. Here are just a few ways Congressman

Blumenauer has worked to help small businesses:

- The Small Business and Infrastructure Jobs Tax Act increases the deductions for start-up expenses, so that more people will start businesses; excludes 100% of small business capital gains from taxation, encouraging investment; and expands Build America Bonds, funding projects that put people to work.
- The HIRE Act institutes a payroll tax break for businesses that hire unemployed workers and extends generous expensing rules for small businesses. Additionally, small businesses can receive a \$1,000 tax credit if they keep newly hired workers on the job for at least a year.
- The Jobs for Main Street Act helps small businesses by eliminating fees on Small Business Administration (SBA) loans to make them more affordable for small companies, and by increasing loan guarantees for small business.
- 3% Withholding Repeal Bill protects cash-strapped state and local governments as well as the private businesses that contract with them from the new withholding requirement.
- Small Business Health Care Tax Credit helps small businesses and small tax-exempt organizations afford the cost of covering their employees and is specifically targeted for those with low- and moderate-income workers. The credit is designed to encourage small employers to offer health insurance coverage for the first time or maintain coverage they already have.

Investment in America's infrastructure is also vital to economic recovery, creating jobs and laying the physical foundation for stronger communities. For every billion dollars spent rebuilding America, 25,000 jobs are created. So far, the efforts of Congress and President Obama to invest in our nation's infrastructure and communities have generated over two million jobs. In fact, just this year we have seen the creation of 1.1 million jobs, greater than the total job creation over the eight years of the Bush Administration. These are just a few examples of benefits to Oregon:

1. \$140 million to jumpstart three wind farm construction projects in Oregon providing more jobs in rural communities;



Altogether, the Special Education Program, Tennessee, with \$400,000 dedicated to Portland, is one of the most comprehensive programs in the country, with a focus on providing high-quality education for all students.

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