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September 9, 2011

The Honorable Ron Johnson
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Johnson:

The Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA), the trade association of the world's largest and most innovative retail companies, applauds the introduction of the "Regulation Moratorium and Jobs Preservation Act of 2011" as an important step toward addressing our country's rampant regulatory process. The bill correctly identifies the negative effect too many regulations can have on the business community's ability to create and retain jobs. RILA members, who feel these regulations acutely, include more than 200 retailers, product manufacturers, and service suppliers, which together account for more than \$1.5 trillion in annual sales, millions of American jobs and more than 100,000 stores, manufacturing facilities and distribution centers domestically and abroad.

In today's economic climate, it is important to recognize the significant impact that overly burdensome regulations can have on jobs and the economy. While some regulation will always be necessary, it is imperative that these regulations are fully thought out and their impact understood. The recent upsurge in major regulations, especially those related to health care and labor, has imposed a substantial burden on companies of all sizes, and can affect their ability to create jobs and grow the economy now and in the future. A company's obligation to comply with a host of complicated and variable regulations takes time, money, and manpower away from the more central goal of economic recovery and creating jobs.

RILA believes that the increase in regulatory burdens is an alarming trend that is in direct opposition to economic prosperity. We applaud congressional efforts to review the impact of regulations issued by the Executive Branch. Now is the time to rethink the regulatory process, and your legislation admirably aims to do just that. RILA appreciates the leadership that you and your cosponsors have shown on this important and timely issue, and we look forward to working with Congress to ease regulatory burdens on the business community.

Sincerely,

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

Katherine Lugar
Executive Vice President, Public Affairs