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Chicago, IL, Company Calls on Congress to Reform the Costly U.S. Sugar Program in the 2012 Farm Bill

As Congress moves forward with the 2012 Farm Bill with virtually no debate on the costs of U.S. sugar policy to American consumers, businesses and workers, a local Chicago, IL, company, with over 60 years in business and 350 local employees, is calling on policymakers to reform the outdated sugar program in a [video message](#).

*“The **additional cost of sugar for us has a huge impact** from the standpoint of being able to reinvest in our business as well as to compete with anyone who’s distributing products from any other countries, including Canada and Mexico, directly with the United States,” said Eddie Opler, Chairman and CEO, World’s Finest® Chocolate. “We’d like to be able to buy sugar for what the rest of the world is able to buy sugar. ... We’d like to be able to **compete on a fair playing ground**, just like we have to everyday against our competitors.”*



Click [here](#) or on the image above to watch the full video.

Facts About the Costly U.S. Sugar Program

- An estimated **125,000 jobs were lost** in U.S. sugar-using industries between 1997 and 2010. The U.S. Department of Commerce also estimates that for every sugar-growing job saved through high U.S. sugar prices, approximately three American manufacturing jobs are lost.
- Only 4,714 sugar farms in the United States benefit from the federal sugar program, and 30% of the sugar program’s benefits go to just 6% of these sugar crop growers. In contrast, there are **more than 600,000 U.S. jobs in food industries that use sugar**.

Congress – Reform Outdated Sugar Policies in the 2012 Farm Bill!

Learn more about the need to reform U.S. sugar policy in the 2012 Farm Bill at www.sugarreform.org.

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The Coalition for Sugar Reform is an alliance of consumers, food and beverage manufacturers, trade advocates, environmental groups, taxpayer watchdog organizations, responsible government advocates, think tanks and other interests. Our objective is to reform the federal government’s intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program – a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.