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## Small & Medium-Sized, Family-Owned Candy Companies Across America Urge Congress to Reform the Sugar Program Now

The U.S. sugar program imposes a \$3.5 billion hidden tax on consumers and sugar-using companies, and sacrifices up to 20,000 potential jobs in sugar-using industries. American consumers and job creators – local candy makers, bakers and food and beverage companies – cannot afford the status quo. Here's what small- and medium-sized, family-owned business owners are saying about the need for sugar reform now.

**Lufkin, TX:** *"We've found it necessary recently, in order to compete in the United States, to move some of our production to a foreign country, where we can get world sugar price, which is relative to the same price as our competitors. ... [T]o keep all of our employees working in the United States ... it's been necessary for us to do this, and it's not something we wanted to do."*

— Eric Atkinson, Atkinson Candy Company

**Allendale, NJ:** *"Since 2006, we've added over 500 jobs at our New Jersey manufacturing facilities in Somerset. That's the good news. The bad news is we've added another 500 jobs, but those jobs are at our manufacturing facilities in Spain, because we simply cannot afford U.S. sugar prices."*

— Michael Rosenberg, Founder and CEO of the Promotion In Motion Companies, Inc.

**Albany, GA:** *"We [Bob's Candies] were one of the world's largest manufacturers of candy canes ... employing nearly 600 employees. ... [W]e had a very difficult time competing with foreign manufacturers due to the world price of sugar being so low compared to our U.S. price. In fact, we moved 300 of those jobs to Mexico to try to compete. Unfortunately, it just wasn't enough and the entire plant is now in Mexico due to the price of sugar."* — Greg McCormack, Kenkraft Handcrafted Confections

**Bryan, OH:** *"I want to create jobs here in Bryan, but we can't until that policy is changed."*

— Kirk Vashaw, Spangler Candy Company



Photo: 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Goetze's Candy Company Co-Chairman, Treasurer and CEO Spaulding Goetze (right), President & COO Mitchell Goetze (center) and VP of Operations Todd Goetze (left). Baltimore, MD.



Photo: 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Spangler Candy Company President & CEO Kirk Vashaw (left) with factory employees. Bryan, OH.

**The FACT is, the U.S. sugar program has cost consumers and businesses \$14 billion over the past four years.**

**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](http://www.sugarreform.org). Connect with us on [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Youtube](#) | [Flickr](#)

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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.