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Texas Confectioner Calls for Sugar Reform on Capitol Hill

In an [op-ed](#) this week in the *Houston Chronicle*, Eric Atkinson, President of Atkinson Candy Co., calls on members of Congress to act on sugar reform and support policies that contribute to U.S. economic growth.

Excerpt:

- ***“Our representatives in Congress should take any opportunity this year to adjust the costly sugar subsidy program because propping up the sugar-producing industry at the expense of taxpayers, consumers and businesses is unsustainable and unacceptable. ...***
- ***“The confectionery industry provides a lot of good-paying jobs for a lot of good people, which supports our economy here in Texas. And the same is true across the country. It’s time for our elected officials to act on sugar reform and embrace policies that help us grow and expand our businesses. ...***
- ***“At Atkinson Candy Co., we strive to be part of the conversation and speak up for our company and the broader confectionery industry. We are making American products with American workers. And we strongly encourage our representatives in Congress to work with us on keeping it that way, as we continue to fight for our companies, employees and industry to have a fair shot in the marketplace.”***

The full op-ed can be found [here](#).

Eric Atkinson and other sugar-using industry representatives are in Washington, DC, this week meeting with policymakers on Capitol Hill as part of the National Confectioners Association’s annual Washington Forum.

Only Congress can fix the U.S. sugar program.

Learn more about the need to reform U.S. sugar policy 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 Our objective is to reform the federal government’s intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program - a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.