



July 25, 2013

PA Businesses Speak Out: Failed U.S. Sugar Policy Threatens Businesses, Growth and Jobs

[Letter to the Editor in the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review — July 19, 2013](#)

By Peter Blommer, CEO, Blommer Chocolate Co., and Ross Born, Co-CEO, Just Born Inc.

- *“While an amendment offering modest reforms [to the sugar program] was defeated in favor of the status quo, we applaud U.S. Rep. Joe Pitts, R-Chester County, who has worked tirelessly for sugar reform and our other representatives who voted for the amendment.*
- *“Currently, the government controls who can grow and process sugar and how much can be imported. These controls are for one purpose: guaranteeing that sugar producers and processors always profit.*
- *“When sugar prices are high, consumers pay nearly double the world market rate; when prices are low, the government bails out sugar producers.*
- *“Over the next few years, American taxpayers could pay hundreds of millions of dollars to purchase surplus sugar — all to artificially raise the price that food manufacturers, like Pennsylvania confectioners, will pay for this ingredient.*
- *“The sugar program is failed policy that threatens Pennsylvania businesses, growth and job creation.”*

Read the full letter [here](#).

And the House voted to make this costly program permanent law. Enough is enough.

Only Congress can fix a program that hurts U.S. consumers, taxpayers, food manufacturers and their workers with simple reforms to U.S. sugar policy.

Congress, Reform 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 Our objective is to reform the federal government's intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program — a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.