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## U.S. Sugar Program Jeopardizes America's Small Businesses

In the four years following the implementation of the 2008 farm bill, small- and medium-sized businesses across the United States paid anywhere from 64 to 92 percent higher for wholesale refined sugar than the average world price because of the market-distorting U.S. sugar program.

Price fluctuation and market manipulation – both the result of America's failed sugar policy – have forced some small businesses to move some of their production abroad in order to stay competitive.

**Here's what small- and medium-sized businesses are saying about the negative impact of the current U.S. sugar program:**

- **Eric Atkinson, Atkinson Candy Co., Lufkin, TX:** *"It wasn't like we [moved production abroad] for profit reasons. We did it for survival reasons. These are 60 jobs down there ... that could be in the U.S. ... We would prefer to be able to make candy in the United States."*
- **Bob Simpson, Jelly Belly Candy Co., Fairfield, CA:** *"You can't compete shipping finished U.S. goods' anymore."*
- **Pierson Bob Clair, Brown & Haley, Tacoma, WA:** *"There are years where we are at a great disadvantage to the world users of sugar when prices are rising."*

Learn more [here](#) and hear from more small- and medium-sized businesses [here](#).

**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.**

Learn more about the need to reform U.S. sugar policy in the 2013 Farm Bill at [www.sugarreform.org](http://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 Our objective is to reform the federal government's intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program – a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.*