

March 30, 2011

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senate  
520 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Shaheen:

The undersigned organizations commend you and Senators Kirk and Durbin for introducing S. 25, the Stop Unfair Giveaways and Restrictions Act of 2011 (SUGAR Act). This bill will promote jobs, mitigate consumer price inflation, and reduce both the budget deficit and unnecessary government interference in private markets.

S. 25 is pro-consumer because it reforms policies that have sent sugar prices to record highs, driving up consumer costs for everything from baked goods to frozen vegetables. It is pro-business because U.S. sugar policies have created artificial shortages that hurt food and beverage makers, especially small and mid-sized companies. S. 25 will also reduce taxpayer exposure by eliminating an unneeded subsidy that requires the government to purchase surplus sugar and sell it at a loss to ethanol plants.

The current sugar program has kept U.S. sugar prices far above world price levels and thereby encouraged, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce, the loss of thousands of jobs in the confectionery industry and other sectors. S. 25 will encourage these jobs to stay in the United States. The bill will also end retrograde policies that prohibit the sale of sugar without government-issued quotas called "allocations," and it will remove new restrictions on imports, introduced in 2008, that have severely hampered trade flows and hurt both this country and our trading partners. These examples of unnecessary government micro-management would end with enactment of S. 25. All in all, your legislation advances the cause of reform in ways that will benefit America's economy, its trade relations, its fiscal condition and the environment.

We support your efforts to reform sugar policy, and look forward to working with you and other legislators who will introduce similar legislation. Thank you for your support of America's businesses, workers and consumers.

Sincerely,

**Coalition for Sugar Reform**  
American Bakers Association  
Competitive Enterprise Institute  
Emergency Committee for American Trade  
Everglades Trust  
Grocery Manufacturers Association  
Independent Bakers Association

International Dairy Foods Association  
National Association of Manufacturers  
National Confectioners Association  
National Foreign Trade Council  
Retail Bakers of America  
Snack Food Association  
Sweetener Users Association  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce