



For Immediate Release

Contact: Craig Orfield  
(202) 224-6770

**Tuesday, January 23, 2007**

***ENZI SUPPORTS SNOWE AMENDMENT TO HELP SMALL  
BUSINESSES COMPLY WITH NEW REGULATION, REDUCE COSTS***

**Washington, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Mike Enzi (R-Wyo.), Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, today gave the following statement in support of the Snowe Small Business Compliance Amendment:

**Statement of Senator Michael B. Enzi  
In Support of Snowe Small Business Compliance Amendment  
January 23, 2006**

Mr. President, I rise today in support of the amendment offered by Senator Snowe to provide regulatory assistance to our nation's small businesses. This amendment requires that when Federal agencies issue new rules and regulations that impact small business they also must issue compliance guides for small businesses. The amendment also requires that the compliance guides be written in plain English and made available in a timely manner.

This is a common sense requirement. It not only reduces the administrative costs for small businesses, but it also increases the level of compliance with such new rules and regulations.

Many small employers simply lack the resources, the outside consultants, and experts necessary to continually advise them about changes in federal rules that impact the way they must run their businesses. As it now stands, smaller businesses currently pay disproportionate per employee compliance costs when compared to larger employers. The average per employee costs for federal regulatory compliance in a business with less than 20 employees is 45% higher than the same costs for a business with 500 or more employees[Cite Chart].

Cost mandates, such as a minimum wage increase, impose significant financial burdens on our small employers. We must do everything we can to help alleviate this burden and ensure that small businesses remain the well-running engine of our economy. Providing

the kind of compliance assistance called for in Senator Snowe's amendment is one of the ways that we can assist small businesses in meeting the administrative costs associated with federal regulation.

I commend Senator Snowe for her efforts on behalf of small businesses and am proud to be a co-sponsor of this legislation with her. I would urge my colleagues to support this amendment that not only provides assistance that reduces employer costs, but also assistance that increases employer compliance.

####