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Dear Friend:

As you know, there are a number of bills now pending in the Senate which are of special interest to small business. I'm a strong supporter of many of these measures designed to reduce government regulation, ease the tax burden, stimulate investment, and generally improve the climate for small business in the country.

Recently, I was appointed to a special Senate Small Business Task Force, created by the Senate Majority Leader to coordinate and expedite action on small business legislation. This is one of the most important responsibilities I'll have this year and I'd like your help.

The efforts of the Task Force will be two-fold: to increase competition in the marketplace and to foster a climate in which small businesses can not only survive, but prosper. The Task Force will follow up on the recommendations of the recent White House Conference on Small Business which produced 60 proposals dealing with regulatory reform, tax reform, paperwork reduction, capital formation, and increased exportes, just to name a few.

I need your suggestions and advice as to the major priority issues which you feel the Task Force should focus on. Your insights and experience are extremely useful to those of us working to solve the problems facing small business today. I'm confident that, working together, we can improve the environment for small business so that more small businesses can start, grow, and thrive.

Thank you for your help. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Gary Hart