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**Georgia Small Business Leaders and Advocates Discuss Impact
of Healthcare Law One Year Out**
Small business owners and advocates discuss impacts of Affordable Care Act

ATLANTA, GA, March 23, 2011—Georgians for a Healthy Future and Small Business Majority joined Georgia small business owner, Julie Haley on a tele-press conference today to discuss how small businesses have been affected by the Affordable Care Act in the year since its enactment.

March 23 marks the first anniversary of the law. The press call provided an open forum for members of the small business community to give their take on the ACA and how it's impacted Georgia's small business community.

"From now until full implementation in 2014, we will continue to see changes to the insurance market but we will also see an impact on the community at large, and that includes businesses, both big and small, and the people they employ," said Amanda Ptashkin, Outreach and Advocacy Director for Georgians for a Healthy Future. "Moving forward, reform efforts will not only ensure a healthier work force but will help save money on related health care costs down the road."

The ACA includes provisions, such as small business tax credits, insurance reforms and the creation of insurance marketplaces, aimed at lowering small employers' costs and making it easier for them to buy insurance for themselves and their employees. Small business owners in Georgia and across the country are already taking advantage of these and other provision.

"While some are taking advantage of the tax credits, there's still a lot of confusion about this law, especially within the small business community," said Terry Gardiner, National Policy Director of Small Business Majority. "We've found many small business owners aren't even aware of the parts of the law that will put money back in their pockets right now. Small business owners are still struggling to keep their doors open. They need to know about provisions in this law that will help them."

"Thanks to the new healthcare law, my business is finally getting a break in the form of a tax credit this year that will help off-set the cost of insurance and help me grow my business and expand," said Julie Haley, CEO of Edge Solutions, a small business based in Alpharetta. "Edge Solutions is like thousands of small businesses across the state—trying to do right by our employees, by our clients and by our community and I am pleased that through the Affordable Care Act, I can do just that."

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About Georgians for a Healthy Future

Georgians for a Healthy Future is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization with a mission to build and mobilize a unified voice, vision and leadership to achieve a healthy future for all Georgians.

About Small Business Majority

Small Business Majority conducts extensive scientific polling and research to determine small business owners' perspectives on healthcare reform and brings a nonpartisan voice to policy discussions nationwide. Based in Sausalito, CA with offices in Washington, DC and New York City, the organization works with small business owners, healthcare policy experts and elected officials.