



Parity for Main Street Employers

For Immediate Release
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Main Street Employers Group Launches Tax Reform Implementation Effort Chris Smith Named Executive Director

Focus on Need for Tax Parity for Pass-Through Businesses

Today the Parity for Main Street Employers (PMSE) coalition, comprised of trade groups representing American Main Street businesses, named Chris Smith as its new Executive Director. Smith is a Washington public affairs veteran and a former Chief of Staff for both the U.S. Treasury Department and the House Ways and Means Committee.

“Chris’s expertise and extensive experience will bring a whole new dimension to the PMSE effort,” said PMSE Steering Committee Chairman Brian Reardon. “His appointment marks a new phase for PMSE’s mission to inform policymakers on the value of pass-through businesses and the need for tax parity between Main Street employers and corporations.”

“I am excited by this new role to highlight the important contribution of Main Street employers to jobs and growth across America,” said Smith. “Pass-throughs are a unique American innovation, making it possible for businesses of all shapes and sizes to start, grow, and thrive. They are essential to keeping family businesses in the family.”

“It is vitally important that the newly revised tax code support Main Street employers, and not work against them,” Smith said. “Because income should be taxed once and only once, pass-throughs make perfect sense as a preferred way to organize a business. No wonder 95% of American businesses have done so, employing the majority of U.S. workers. As policymakers now focus on implementation of tax reform, the value of Main Street Employers and the need for tax parity need to remain top of mind.”

Smith served as Chief of Staff to U.S. Treasury Secretary John W. Snow, and Counselor to the Treasury Secretary. Prior to Treasury, Chris served on Capitol Hill on the staff of the House Committee on Ways and Means, including as Chief of Staff for Chairman Bill Archer. He has spent over a decade advising business executives, sovereign governments, major business trade associations, and NGO’s on financial, tax, and trade issues as founder of Summit Global Strategies and recently as senior counsel at Chartwell Strategy Group.

PMSE represents national business groups whose members employ millions of private sector workers in every community and every industry, including contractors, engineers, retailers, manufacturers and more. The coalition’s Steering Committee is made up of ten national trade groups – American Council of Engineering Companies, Associated Builders and Contractors, Associated General Contractors of America, Independent Community Bankers of America, National Beer Wholesalers Association, National Electrical Contractors Association, National



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Roofing Contractors Association, S Corporation Association, National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors, and the Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America.

Today, PMSE also unveiled an updated website with information on the role and tax treatment of pass-through business. For more information on PMSE and information on the tax treatment of pass-through business, visit mainstreetemployers.org and follow us on twitter [@MainStEmployers](https://twitter.com/MainStEmployers).

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About Parity for Main Street Employers

Main Street Employers are the backbone of the American economy—employing the majority of U.S. workers, and comprising 95% of all U.S. businesses. By organizing as S corporations and other pass-through businesses, they help keep family businesses in the family, and make America more innovative and competitive. That's why we need a federal tax code that restores parity between corporations and pass-through businesses. For more, see mainstreetemployers.org.