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One of the nation's leading advocacy groups for self-employed and micro-businesses says that, while the delay in enforcement of the technical guidance issued by the Treasury Department on Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRAs) is a good move, self-employed workers really need a permanent solution.

Katie Vlietstra, Vice President for Government Relations and Public Affairs for the **National Association for the Self-Employed (NASE)** released the following comment on the issue:

"The announcement today by the Treasury Department that it has offered a short-term delay in the enforcement of a prohibition on Health Reimbursement Arrangements is welcome news for our community, but a long-term, legislative solution is still urgently needed. America's smallest employers need the stability of a permanent fix in order to continue to utilize this critical tool to help provide health care coverage to their employees."

"We support Congressmen Boustany and Thompson's plans to re-introduce their bipartisan legislation focused on offering a permanent correction to this issue. This bipartisan legislation would order the IRS to reverse its regulation preventing small businesses from providing standalone HRAs so that they can support their employees and help them obtain affordable health care. Their legislation, combined with the momentum by Senate Republicans and Democrats to address this issue, will help millions of small business owners and should be passed by Congress as soon as possible."

“HRAs have long-been used to help small business owners provide some level of financial

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Thompson (D-CA). In fact, NASE has been active in advocating for a long-term solution to this issue with members of the Obama Administration, including Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell.

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