

Our 2012 Successes: One Voice Leading the Way

Equipment Expensing, R&D Tax Extended; Permanent Estate Tax Exemption Set

One Voice, its members, and partners succeeded by including in the Fiscal Cliff law an extension of Bonus Depreciation, expanded Section 179 Expensing, and the R&D Tax Credit. These are tools manufacturers use to invest in their facilities, employees, and improve their global competitiveness. One Voice helped secure extensions through 2013 for both capital equipment expensing provisions and the R&D Tax credit, and make the Section 127 Employer Education Assistance credit permanent. One Voice worked with a coalition of small businesses to secure a permanent solution to the Estate Tax. Under the agreement, individual estates up to \$5 million and family estates up to \$10 million. Most importantly, this is indexed for inflation, meaning by 2020, family estates up to \$17 million are exempt and anything in excess is taxed at a 40% rate.

One Voice Taking Lead Role on Tax Reform; Member Testifies Before Congress

One Voice and its members are taking a leading role on tax reform in Washington on behalf of small and medium sized manufacturers, particularly S-Corporations and other passthrough businesses. A One Voice member testified before the House Ways and Means Committee on the impact of tax reform on manufacturers and One Voice held hundreds of meetings in Washington on taxes. One Voice is working for permanent solutions for the R&D tax credit; Section 199 domestic production activity deduction; bonus depreciation, Section 179 increased expensing; Last-In-First-Out (LIFO); Interest Charge Domestic International Sales Corporation (IC-DISC); and other tax priorities.

Courts Strike Down NLRB Rules

Two separate U.S. courts ruled in cases filed by the Coalition for a Democratic Workplace, of which One Voice is an active member, striking down the National Labor Relations Board's Ambush Election Rule and delaying the Poster Rule. The Ambush Election Rule, which shortened the union election process to as little as seven days, had initially gone into effect on April 30, 2012; however, the court decision nullified the entire rule. The delayed Poster Rule would require employers to display a poster informing employees of their rights to join a union. One Voice and its allies continue to fight on Capitol Hill and in the courts against these rules.

Awareness of Workforce Skills Shortage Heightened

A top One Voice priority is to highlight the need for skilled workers in the industry. One Voice is partnering with employers, job training centers, educators, the National Guard, among others, to reform federal workforce development programs such as the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and the AMERICA Works Act.

One Voice Member Appointed to U.S. Commerce Department Manufacturing Council

The Secretary of Commerce appointed a One Voice member to serve on the Manufacturing Council. The Council is comprised of manufacturing business leaders who provide advice to the U.S. Commerce Secretary on issues related to manufacturing sector competitiveness.

One Voice Speaks Out Against Harmful Regulations

One Voice is leading the way helping to fight regulations in Washington. Sending a list of burdensome and ineffective regulations to the House of Representatives Government Reform Committee, One Voice highlighted several regulations including EPA's Toxic Release Inventories rule, EPA regulation of Nickel as a harmful carcinogen, OSHA Employer Safety Incentive & Disincentive Policies, and the SEC Conflict Minerals Rule, among others that directly affect members.

One Voice Member Testifies before Congress on Impact of High Fuel Prices

A One Voice member testified before a Congressional Committee on the impact of high fuel prices on small and medium-sized manufacturers. One Voice is working with policymakers to bring attention to how increased fuel costs put the industry at a global disadvantage and hurt manufacturers' ability to grow and add jobs.