

## The Changing Face of the 110th Congress

*Democrats' surge to power alters course for upcoming session*

By Molly Brogan, Kyle Kempf,  
Jody Milanese and Rob Yunich

NSBA Staff

As the months progressed, speculation was rampant that a major change was going to occur on Capitol Hill. The 2006 midterm elections drew nearer and many predicted that the Democrats would take the 15 seats needed to control the U.S. House of Representatives and might even squeeze out the six necessary to control the U.S. Senate. But once the results from the Nov. 7 elections arrived, many were left surprised—on both sides of the proverbial aisle.

At press time, the Democrats had taken 33 seats in the House (according to the Associated Press) and six in the Senate, seizing control of both chambers of Congress for the first time in more than a decade. The House majority was created, in part, by the Democrats taking 11 solidly-Republican House districts.

The Democrats and Republicans each boast 49 senators, but two New Englanders (Joe Lieberman of Connecticut, who served three previous terms as a Democrat, and Bernard Sanders of Vermont) will caucus with the Democrats to create a “blue” majority.

Voter turnout also was high as nearly 79 million Americans voted on Election Day, according to the Associated Press. This corresponds to 40.4 percent of the voting-age population, a slight increase from the 39.7 percent who voted during the 2002



COURTESY ISTOCKPHOTO

The new inhabitants of the U.S. Capitol will bring major changes to the 110th Congress. midterm elections, but less than the record 42.1 percent that voted in 1982.

Led by Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), who will become the first female speaker of the House, the Democrats have authored “A New Direction for America,” which they released on June 16. The document sets forward their “Six for ‘06” priorities—which includes increasing the federal minimum wage, making college tuition permanently tax-deductible, an energy plan to free the U.S. from its dependency on foreign oil, and stopping privatization of Social Security. They also have released plans for the Medicare program and the war in Iraq.

Since issuing that document, and the subsequent election victory, Pelosi has created a set of goals for the first 100 hours of the 110th Congress—starting with a minimum-wage increase.

NSBA opposes an increased minimum wage, but acknowledges that most of its members pay their employees more than the current \$5.15 per

hour. But that is not the only area that the bipartisan NSBA will emphasize throughout the 110th Congress.

Association Health Plan (AHP) legislation has failed to gain enough support to pass the Senate, and the new Democratic majority will all but ensure a different focus for health care reform. AHPs, which NSBA oppose, were introduced by the front-running Republicans while they were in power.

The Lincoln/Durbin proposal, which is backed by the Democrats, now takes center stage. The bill—named for its authors, Sens. Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.) and Richard Durbin (D-Ill.)—allows small businesses to buy into a plan patterned after the Federal Employee Health Benefits Package.

Without a significant majority in the Senate, Lincoln/Durbin could face the same fate that AHPs previously met—inaction. It is likely that any health care proposal will be piecemeal in nature and focus on areas where there is broad bipartisan support—

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PHOTO BY ROB YUNICH

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## MISSION STATEMENT

NSBA is a volunteer-led association. Our primary mission is to advocate state and federal policies that are beneficial to small business, the state, and the nation — and promote the growth of free enterprise.

## The Changing Face of the 110th Congress (continued from p. 1)

such as electronic medical records and quality measurement and reporting. Another proposal that has been gaining popularity is re-insurance, the concept of creating an insurance program that would cover catastrophic health care costs above a certain level.

### NEW LEADERS

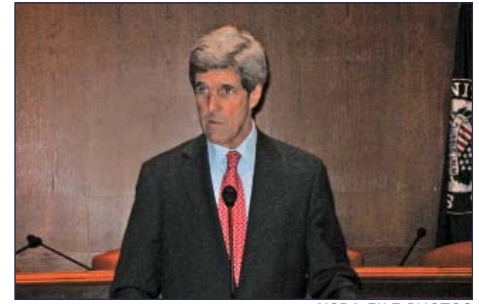
The Democratic majority in the House means that Rep. Nydia Velázquez (D-N.Y.) will chair the House Small Business Committee after serving as its ranking member since February 1998. She is expected to focus on two key issues, access to capital and strengthening U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) programs. Velázquez also is likely to continue her push for an open and fair federal marketplace for small businesses, highlighting contracting problems through her annual Scorecards.

Rep. Donald Manzullo (R-Ill.), the outgoing committee chair, has been a strong advocate for American companies' competitiveness, tax reform and regulatory reform. He has not announced whether he will remain on the committee.

Meanwhile, a Democratic majority likely will usher a less noticeable change on the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. The outgoing chair, Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-Maine), along with the incoming chair, Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.), have worked together on a number of important small-business bills and are expected to continue their bipartisan tradition. As chair, Kerry likely will continue pushing for improvements to the disaster loan program and small-business contracting.

The long-term priorities set by the new chairs will take a back seat to SBA reauthorization. The House and Senate were unable to complete the reauthorization by the original Sept. 30, 2006 deadline, but passed legislation to extend SBA's programs through Feb. 2, 2007.

Other influential committees also



NSBA FILE PHOTOS

The new chairs of the Small Business Committee in the House and Senate will be Rep. Nydia Velázquez (D-N.Y.) and Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.), respectively.

will be led by a new crop of Democratic leaders, including:

#### SENATE

**Appropriations:** Robert Byrd (W.Va.)

**Budget:** Kent Conrad (N.D.)

**Commerce:** Daniel Inouye (Hawaii)

**Energy and Natural Resources:** Jeff Bingaman (N.M.)

**Environment and Public Works:** Barbara Boxer (Calif.)

**Finance:** Max Baucus (Mont.)

**Health, Education, Labor and Pensions:** Edward Kennedy (Mass.)

**Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:** Lieberman  
**Judiciary:** Patrick Leahy (Vt.)

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Appropriations:** David Obey (Wis.)

**Budget:** John Spratt (S.C.)

**Education and the Workforce:** George Miller (Calif.)

**Energy and Commerce:** John Dingell (Mich.)

**Financial Services:** Barney Frank (Mass.)

**Government Reform:** Henry Waxman (Calif.)

**Judiciary:** John Conyers (Mich.)

**Ways and Means:** Charles Rangel (N.Y.)

#### LAME DUCK OUTLOOK

But before all of these changes occur, the 109th Congress must finish its leftover business.

Because of the major leadership change, it is unlikely much legislative work will be accomplished during

the "lame duck" session. While much time will be spent organizing for the next session of Congress, Republican and Democratic leaders will try to finish the fiscal year 2007 appropriations bill.

Another potential issue that Congress will address is the package of popular tax policy extensions that were contained in the so-called "trifecta" bill (*H.R. 5970*), which also included an estate tax reduction and an increase to the minimum wage.

Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.), who already has been elected the next Senate majority leader, has expressed support for passage of the extenders—which includes extending the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, the Research and Development Tax Credit and the state and local sales tax deduction through 2007. Therefore, it is probable that the extenders portion will be pulled from the original "trifecta" bill and voted on separately.

Many believe the "trifecta" bill will not be brought up again for a vote, primarily because of the Democrat's dedication to increasing the federal minimum wage. It also is doubtful Republicans will garner the necessary votes to pass a permanent estate tax reduction.

Permanent estate tax repeal remains a top priority for NSBA's members across the country and NSBA will continue to push for repeal as well as permanent extension of the small-business tax relief package that was passed in recent years. ★

# Chair's Message

## NSBA's Bipartisan Message Remains Loud and Clear

By Paul Hense

NSBA Chair

**T**here is value in bipartisanship. We are about to experience a changing of guard in the U.S. Congress. The Democrats have taken charge of both the House and the Senate. If you are a very partisan business owner, you are either elated or depressed. The truth of the matter is that we are experiencing the natural ebb and flow of the American political system.

If you believed the Republicans would rule forever, you are not being realistic. If you believe the Democrats are now permanently in control, you are dreaming. The truth of the matter is that no one can possibly pick the winners for the elections that will take place just two years from now.

The benefit of working with both parties—and being respected by both parties—is that we are capable of having a dialogue with both sides of the aisle. Most small-business people are against an increase to the minimum wage. That is understandable. Most likely, the Democrats will make that issue a centerpoint in their proposals. Given that we have a relationship with the Democrats, we will at least have a voice in the debate.

NSBA is a member-driven organization. We represent our member's interests instead of being loyal to a particular political party. NSBA's bipartisan approach will help us keep our important voice during the 110th Congress—something that might not



PHOTO BY MICHAEL BUCK

be possible if we did not work well with both parties.

NSBA values input from its members and has two important events that give you an opportunity to help us set our agenda for the next Congress. Both events will occur early in 2007—and it would be in your best interest to attend them both. In February, small-business advocates will gather in Scottsdale, Ariz., for NSBA's Small Business Congress. The event will be held Feb. 15-17 at the Hilton Scottsdale Resort and Villas. NSBA holds the Small Business Congress every other year so you, the small-business owner, can help NSBA set its advocacy agenda for the coming two years. (More information is available on p. 9.)

This is your chance to have your voice heard and ensure that we are conveying your concerns to members

of Congress. We will be voting on NSBA's top-10 priority issues during the event—and you cannot vote if you don't attend.

In May, NSBA will hold its annual Washington Presentation. This is your opportunity to meet the legislators and learn the latest straight from the mouths of the decision-makers. With so many new members of Congress, it is imperative that you make your voice heard early in their term. NSBA should not be a distant voice in Washington, but rather a voice for small-business owners across the country. Attending this event gives you an opportunity to present your message in person.

This year's Washington Presentation will coincide with a terrific celebration honoring NSBA's 70th anniversary. Both events will be held May 8-10, with the anniversary gala taking place May 9 at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C.

NSBA's goal is to see that both political parties are aware of the ramifications of their actions in the legislature. The viability of small business gives every American a chance to achieve the American dream. If members of Congress understand the true value of entrepreneurship, their support for our mission would be stronger. Help us guide the new members of Congress to an understanding of our issues.

Hope to see you in Scottsdale in February or Washington in May. Best of all, hope to see you at both. ★

### Top 10 Features of NSBA.biz

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# SBTC's September Spotlight

*Tibbetts Awards, 'SBIR in Transition' reaffirms group's innovative nature*

By Rob Yunich

*Director of Communications*

The Small Business Technology Council, a council of NSBA, hosted two events in late September that continued to help the organization establish itself as an innovator. Both events—the Tibbetts Awards and a first-of-its-kind conference called “SBIR in Transition”—proved that SBTC is ahead of the curve in the small-business technology field.

The Tibbetts Awards recognize outstanding achievements in innovation by companies who participate in the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program as well as outstanding support for small-business innovation provided by public officials and others.

“We recognized 70 people from 42 states who are SBIR models of excellence,” SBTC Executive Director Jere Glover said. “We will be hosting this event every year because we know that it is important to recognize those who make a difference.”

Roland Tibbetts, who founded the SBIR program in 1977, lent his name to the award and was a vital cog in SBTC's ability to host the event. Tibbetts joined the National Science Foundation (NSF) in 1972 after 20 years in the private sector.

By 1982, the SBIR program's success resulted in congressional legislation that extended SBIR to the 11 largest research and development departments and agencies in the government. SBIR, and the related Small Business Technology Transfer program that must involve universities, have resulted in more than \$2 billion annually of cutting-edge federal research and development funds now going to small technology firms. Tibbetts retired from NSF in 1996.

Steven Preston, the new administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration, served as the keynote speaker for the event—one



TOP RIGHT PHOTO BY GARY HUTZELL; ALL OTHERS BY ROB YUNICH

*TOP LEFT:* Steven Preston, the new administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration, spoke at the Tibbetts Awards luncheon in one of his first public appearances since his June 29 confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

*TOP RIGHT:* SBTC Executive Director Jere Glover (left) greets Roland Tibbetts, the founder of the Small Business Innovation Research program and award namesake.

*BOTTOM LEFT:* James I. Finley, deputy under secretary of defense (acquisition and technology) was the featured speaker during the “SBIR in Transition” conference.

*BOTTOM RIGHT:* Richard McNamara, director of Naval SeaSystems (submarine program executive office), speaks to the nearly 300 people in attendance.



of his first public appearances since being confirmed by the U.S. Senate on June 29.

“One of the secrets of the American growth economy is that we don't think big is necessarily better. Sure, large corporations have their place, an important place. But as Americans, we've always understood the vital role of the individual, the entrepreneur, the man or woman with a dream,” Preston said during his speech. “And, we understand that it's small- and medium-sized businesses that account for the major part of economic growth and job creation.”

In addition to the award recipients,

SBTC bestowed several others with a special award, starting with Tibbetts himself. Others included Nelson Crowther, general counsel to the House Small Business Committee; Max V. Kidalov, counsel to the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship; Rep. Donald Manzullo (R-Ill.), outgoing chair of the House Small Business Committee; retired Sen. Warren B. Rudman (R-N.H.); and Kevin Wheeler, deputy Democratic staff director for the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Sponsors for the event included Boeing, the Association for

Manufacturing Technology (AMT), the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Department of Defense, DARPA, the U.S. Department of the Navy, NASA, NSF, Cybernet, Dawnbreaker, Homeland Venture Partners, PBC, Inc., Physical Sciences, Inc., and Radiation Monitoring Devices, Inc.

#### A MONUMENTAL FIRST

“SBIR in Transition” featured a speech by James I. Finley, deputy under secretary of defense (acquisition and technology). Finley boasts more than 30 years of multi-national business leadership and management experience.

The conference focused on the new commercialization pilot program at the Department of Defense (DOD), which was enacted as Section 252 of the *National Defense Authorization Act of 2006*. SBTC worked closely with Congress to enact it into law.

Section 252 requires DOD to modify its acquisition process and report on its success in buying technology for the SBIR program. Section 252—and the follow-on directives developed by DOD to implement this new law—represent, quite simply, the most significant change in the SBIR program in 20 years. The new law requires that each department and prime contractors report to Congress about their efforts and success in transitioning small-business technology into DOD weapons and systems.

SBTC is the first organization to recognize and honor federal SBIR program managers who have successfully managed the commercialization of SBIR technologies through Phase III of the SBIR program.

Other key speakers included Dr. Michael McGrath, deputy assistant secretary of the U.S. Navy for research, development, test and evaluation. His role is to develop programs to bridge the gap in transitioning from science and technology to acquisition, and to improve processes



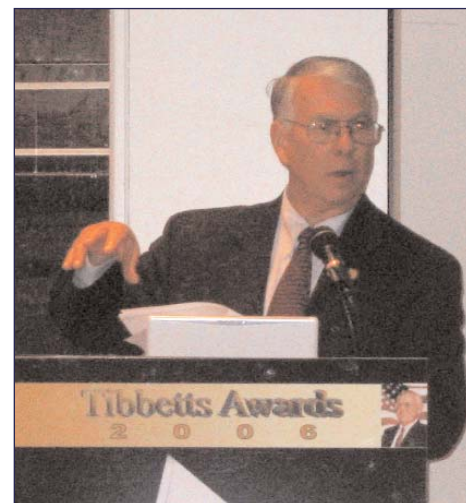
BOTTOM LEFT PHOTO BY GARY HUTZELL; ALL OTHERS BY ROB YUNICH

**TOP LEFT:** Kevin Wheeler, deputy Democratic staff director for the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, received an award for her hard work on behalf of small-business owners.

**TOP RIGHT:** SBTC Executive Director Jere Glover (left) presents an award to Nelson Crowther, general counsel to the House Small Business Committee.

**BOTTOM LEFT:** Retired Sen. Warren B. Rudman (R-N.H.) speaks during the Tibbetts Awards ceremony after being honored.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** Rep. Donald Manzullo (R-Ill.), outgoing chair of the House Small Business Committee, addresses the crowd at the Tibbetts Awards—where he was lauded for his continued commitment to small business during seven terms in the House.



for integrating testing and evaluation across acquisition programs.

Richard McNamara, executive director of Naval SeaSystems in the Submarine Program Executive Office (PEO), also spoke. McNamara joined the Senior Executive Service (SES) in December 1998. He is responsible for managing all acquisition programs for PEO submarines.

The conference attracted nearly 300 attendees and was completely sold out. Its popularity urged SBTC to produce two more events like it, the first of which is scheduled for March 9, 2007.

“We had 30 speakers, featuring the under secretary, the deputy assistant secretary, program managers

and top SBIR defense contractors,” Glover said. “We were beyond thrilled that it was sold out and expect more of the same for the next two conferences.”

Event sponsors were Boeing, AMT, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman Corporation, and L-3 Communications Corporation.

More information about the Tibbetts Awards can be found at [tibbettsawards.com](http://tibbettsawards.com), more about the SBIR conference can be found at [zyn.com/sbtc](http://zyn.com/sbtc) and more about SBTC can be found at [sbtc.org](http://sbtc.org).

To register for upcoming “SBIR in Transition” events, call Jere Glover at 202-785-4300 or e-mail him at [jglover@tibbettsawards.org](mailto:jglover@tibbettsawards.org). ★

# Access to Export Financing Might Improve

By James Morrison

SBEA President

A year-long effort by the Small Business Exporters Association of the United States, the international trade council of NSBA, has resulted in both chambers of Congress approving major advances in export financing for smaller companies. The bills were approved unanimously by the House and Senate. If enacted into law, they change the way that the Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank of the United States does business.

Ex-Im Bank is a government agency that provides guarantees and



financing dollars to small-business exporters;

- ◆ Create a permanent new small-business division at the bank, headed by a senior vice president who reports directly to the president of the bank;

with repayment periods of seven years or less, as has been done with other Ex-Im products.

As the year wore on, SBEA's requests began to gain acceptance. First, the subcommittees with jurisdiction over the bank, and then the

**In 2002, SBEA urged Congress to require Ex-Im Bank to devote 20 percent of its financing dollars to small business. Congress did so, but the bank never met the 20-percent mark. Moreover, small-business complaints about the bank have grown.**

**This year, Ex-Im Bank was up for its charter renewal, and SBEA asked Congress for significant reforms in how the bank operates. SBEA was invited to testify five times on the Ex-Im legislation—three times in the House and twice in the Senate.**

credits insurance to commercial banks that agree to finance exports. This kind of government backing is vital—because without it, commercial banks would rarely (if ever) accept the foreign risk inherent in export transactions.

In 2002, SBEA urged Congress to require Ex-Im Bank to devote 20 percent of its financing dollars to small business. Congress did so, but the bank never met the 20-percent mark. Moreover, small-business complaints about the bank have grown.

This year, Ex-Im Bank was up for its charter renewal, and SBEA asked Congress for significant reforms in how the bank operates. SBEA was invited to testify five times about the Ex-Im legislation—three times in the House and twice in the Senate.

SBEA's key requests were:

- ◆ Maintain the requirement that the bank devote 20 percent of its

- ◆ Require each operating division of the bank to have a staff dedicated to small-business transactions;

- ◆ Direct the bank to give its underwriters more individual sign-off authority for small-business transactions;

- ◆ Assure that the senior vice president for small business has a major role in deciding any employment actions affecting these small-business specialists;

- ◆ Give the small-business division authority over outreach, including technology improvements at the bank to aid smaller companies;

- ◆ Set up a permanent small-business committee at the bank—headed by the senior vice president and consisting of bank personnel from different operating units who focus on small business; and

- ◆ Require the bank to offer delegated authority to commercial banks for buyer financing of transactions

full committees (the House Financial Service Committee and the Senate Banking Committee), decided to approve SBEA's requests.

In the end, both committees voted unanimously in favor of bills (*H.R. 5058* and *S. 3938*) that included virtually all of SBEA's requests. These bills then passed the House and Senate unanimously.

However, the Senate bill did not pass until the last day that Congress was in session prior to the midterm elections. Since there were differences between the House and Senate versions, the bills were scheduled to be reviewed during the congressional "lame duck" session.

As of press time, more information about the congressional review was not available.

**More information about SBEA and its ongoing activities—as well as your way to become a members—is available on its Web site, [sbea.org](http://sbea.org). ★**

# Small Business Congress Set for Feb. 15-17, 2007

By Rob Yunich

Director of Communications

Your chance to help NSBA set the organization's priority issues for the 110th Congress is here. The opportunity will occur during NSBA's biennial Small Business Congress (SBC), to be held Thursday to Saturday, Feb. 15-17, 2007 at the Hilton Scottsdale Resort and Villas, located at 6333 North Scottsdale Road in Scottsdale, Ariz.

The event will include sessions emanating from NSBA's issue committees—taxes, environment and regulatory affairs, health and human resources, and economic development. It also will include time to meet other attendees and much more. Members will finalize the organization's priority issues for the 110th Congress on Saturday, Feb. 17.

The event begins on Thursday, Feb. 15 with an in-depth look at a new initiative NSBA is unveiling that will examine the current state of the Internal Revenue Service's focus on small business. However, NSBA speculates that this will not be a pleasant stay under the IRS microscope—and the organization will take this opportunity to educate attendees and provide guidance on what to do if you are audited.

On Feb. 16-17, attendees will have a chance to listen to experts from various fields—including other tax-related issues (such as the broad reform of the U.S. tax system),



NSBA FILE PHOTO

Tom Sullivan, the U.S. Small Business Administration's chief counsel for advocacy, was one of the featured speakers during NSBA's 2005 Small Business Congress.

health care policy, economic development, and regulatory reform.

With the Democrats assuming power as a result of the midterm elections, new issues will be at the forefront during the 110th Congress. NSBA wants to make sure you stay informed—and help the organization maintain the influence that it currently enjoys.

Therefore, the event includes a chance to caucus with members to discuss what issues should top NSBA's agenda for the 110th Congress. The agenda is up to you—but you cannot vote if you do not attend.

The rate for a room is \$215 per

night. It must be booked through NSBA to secure this special rate.

The hotel is located in downtown Scottsdale, within walking distance of the city's shops and restaurants.

The registration fee is \$299 for an attendee, which includes every session and all meals. Guests are welcome to attend the sessions for free. There is an *a la carte* charge for individual guest meals.

Registration for the event will be available in the near future on the NSBA Web site, [nsba.biz](http://nsba.biz).

For more information, please call Rosa Wright at 202-293-8830 or e-mail [rwright@nsba.biz](mailto:rwright@nsba.biz). ★

## Time Remains for Small Business Advocate of the Year Award Nominations

If you live in the Mid-Atlantic, southern United States, or Puerto Rico, you still can nominate somebody (or yourself) to become NSBA's 2007 Small Business Advocate of the Year. You must be a small-business owner to qualify.

Applicants must demonstrate a commitment to small-business advocacy, a proven history of voluntary efforts and endeavors to advance small business and improve the conditions for small-business owners; success and growth as a small-business owner; and any other accomplishments demonstrating merit as an effective advocate for small-business interests.

Please submit nominations to: Rob Yunich, Small Business Advocate of the Year Award, National Small Business Association, 1156 15th Street NW Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005-1755.

If you live in Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, or Washington, D.C., or West Virginia, the deadline is Friday, Dec. 22.

Or, if you live in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, or Texas, the deadline is Friday, Jan. 19, 2007. More information and the application form can be found at [nsba.biz/award](http://nsba.biz/award). ★

# NSBA At Work

*Highlights of NSBA staff activities from the recent past*

Every day, NSBA members and staff work to ensure that small-business owners are represented on Capitol Hill through meetings and events. Recently-attended events include:

## Sept. 21

*Discussion with Gov. Mitt Romney*

NSBA participated in a discussion with then-Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney about the groundbreaking health care reform measure that the Bay State passed earlier in the year.

## Sept. 21

*Health Care Roundtable*

NSBA participated in a discussion, hosted by the New America Foundation, examining health care reform and prospects for legislation in the 110th Congress. Speakers included Sens. Gordon Smith (R-Ore.) and Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.).

## Sept. 26

*HSA Hearing*

The Senate Finance Committee held a hearing to evaluate the progress of Health Savings Accounts and discuss potential changes that could expand and improve HSAs.

## Sept. 26

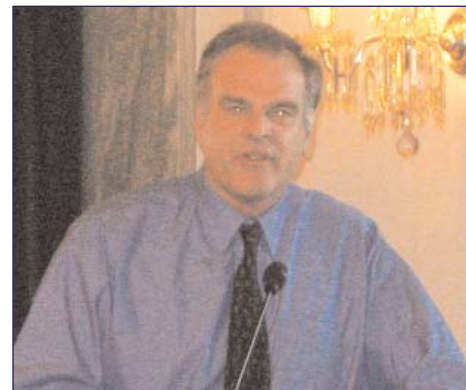
*Tax Hearing*

The House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Select Review Measures held a hearing evaluating proposals to reform aspects of the federal tax system.

## Sept. 26

*Tax Gap Hearing*

A hearing was held by the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information and International Security about the tax gap and ongoing efforts to reduce it.



PHOTOS BY ROB YUNICH

NSBA Board members Hank Ryan (left) and Scott Hauge speak during an energy briefing.

## Oct. 3

*Health Care Briefing*

NSBA staff participated in a roundtable discussion with the health care expert of Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) about the future of health care reform.

## Oct. 12

*Health Care Presentation*

At a board meeting for the National Coalition on Health Care, NSBA President Todd McCracken joined Sen. Bill Frist in calling for more consumer-directed health care and improved transparency in the system.

## Oct. 13

*Procurement Council Meeting*

NSBA led a meeting of the Small Business Procurement Council to discuss an ongoing strategy to work toward a more open and equitable federal marketplace for small business.

## Oct. 12

*Business.gov Re-Launch*

NSBA staff attended the official re-launch of the U.S. Small Business Administration's Internet portal, *business.gov*, which SBA hopes to turn into a one-stop shop for small businesses to research and satisfy all of their government requirements.

## Oct. 19

*Self-Employment Tax Meeting*

NSBA staff met with the office of Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.) to discuss the self-employment tax on health care.

## Oct. 25

*White House Conference Call*

NSBA staff participated in a teleconference with Karl Rove, deputy chief of staff to President George W. Bush, focusing on the state of the economy and the 2006 elections.

## Nov. 1

*Energy Briefing*

NSBA Board Members Scott Hauge and Hank Ryan spoke at a congressional briefing about the active role small business has taken in supporting California's recently-enacted, first-of-a-kind greenhouse gas legislation (*California Global Warming Solutions Act, AB 32*), and why this can have significant implications for climate legislation nationally. The briefing was hosted by the Environmental and Energy Study Institute.

## Nov. 20

*Health Care Presentation*

NSBA President Todd McCracken spoke about NSBA's proposal for health care reform during an event in New York City hosted by the Council of State Governments. ★

**nsba.biz**

# NSBA Calendar

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT	LOCATION	REGISTRATION INFO
Feb. 15-17, 2007	National Small Business Association	Small Business Congress	Hilton Scottsdale Resort and Villas, 6333 North Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, Ariz.	For more information, call Rosa Wright, 202-293-8830 or e-mail <a href="mailto:rwright@nsba.biz">rwright@nsba.biz</a> .
March 9	Small Business Technology Council	Second SBIR Conference	Washington, D.C.	For more information, call Jere Glover, 202-785-4300 or e-mail <a href="mailto:jglover@tibbetsawards.org">jglover@tibbetsawards.org</a> .
May 8-10	National Small Business Association	70th Anniversary Gala/2007 Washington Presentation	Wyndham Washington/ National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.	For more information, call Rosa Wright, 202-293-8830 or e-mail <a href="mailto:rwright@nsba.biz">rwright@nsba.biz</a> .
October 2007	Small Business Technology Council	Third SBIR Conference/Tibbets Awards	Washington, D.C.	For more information, call Jere Glover, 202-785-4300 or e-mail <a href="mailto:jglover@tibbetsawards.org">jglover@tibbetsawards.org</a> .

Do you want to see your events appear on the calendar? Please send the information to Rob Yunich, 202-293-8830, fax to 202-872-8543, or e-mail [press@nsba.biz](mailto:press@nsba.biz).

## BE A PART OF NSBA'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

*Celebrating the 70th anniversary of the small-business movement*



LOGO DESIGNED BY ROB YUNICH

**May 9, 2007**  
**National Museum**  
**of Women in the**  
**Arts**

**More information**  
**will be available**  
**on *nsba.biz*.**

## Register for NSBA's 2007 Small Business Congress



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