

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Re:** **Lubbock Chamber Joins Association Health Plan Amicus Brief**

LUBBOCK, Texas – The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce joined an Amicus Brief filed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on Friday, June 7 in support of Association Health Plans (AHP).

Last month, the Lubbock Chamber was one of two local chambers of commerce invited to Washington D.C. for a special roundtable at the White House to discuss the future of AHPs. The meeting was led by U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta.

“We were honored to have a seat at the table and voice our concerns about the recent ruling,” said Eddie McBride, President and CEO. “We understand the difficulties small businesses face when it comes to offering health insurance to employees and we believe that allowing small businesses to band together to purchase health plans at more affordable prices gives smaller businesses the same flexibility as larger businesses under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).”

Earlier this year, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia struck down the rule that allows small businesses to pool together to access affordable, high-quality health insurance through Association Health Plans (AHPs), such as the Lubbock Chamber’s West Texas Employer Health Plan. In April, the Lubbock Chamber issued a statement denouncing the court ruling that remanded to the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) a rule expanding association health plans.

“For more than a decade, the Lubbock Chamber has been at the forefront of championing award-winning health care coverage solutions for small businesses and their families,” said McBride. “AHPs are a step in the right direction, improving upon and operating within the ACA, and we will continue fighting for innovative health care solutions for our members despite temporary and unnecessary setbacks such as this.”

The Lubbock Chamber will continue to fight for AHPs alongside the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and fellow chambers of commerce nationwide. A copy of the amicus brief can be found [here](#).



The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce represents almost 1,900 businesses and over 79,000 employees on the South Plains which accounts for over \$2 billion in annual household earnings in Lubbock and West Texas. Since 1913 the Chamber, as a catalyst for business growth; a convener of leaders and influencers; and a champion for a stronger community, has served as a unified voice of business by actively advocating for a pro-jobs, pro-growth, pro-business climate.

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