

**Local Chamber Of Commerces That Have
Denounced Or Withdrawn From The U.S. Chamber**
U.S. Chamber Watch
Updated: 11/8/11

State	Local Chamber Name	Action	Key Quote	Source
AK	Homer Chamber of Commerce	Quit	"From a purely commerce point of view, you know, it didn't make sense for us to belong anymore...It doesn't behoove us to be a member of that organization anymore. They certainly do not represent the interests of small towns, small businesses and individuals." -Monte Davis, Executive Director, Homer Chamber of Commerce; "They [local business owners] felt very strongly about it, saying they would love to be a part of our chamber, but couldn't as long as we tacitly supported the U.S. chamber by our membership." - Monte Davis, ED, Homer Chamber of Commerce; "In the small community that Homer is, the U.S. chamber just didn't seem to satisfy us. It was a cold, clear look at benefits versus the cost." -Holly Van Pelt, Board President, Homer Chamber of Commerce, AK	Associated Press, 9/18/11
AK	Kodiak Chamber of Commerce	Quit	"It was financial. Finances and not necessarily being in line with the positions they [the U.S. Chamber] were taking." – Trevor Brown, Executive Director, Kodiak Chamber of Commerce, AK on why his Chamber quit the U.S. Chamber	Homer News, 9/21/11
AK	Seward Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"...we've had informal discussions about making sure our membership in the [Alaska] state chamber doesn't lead someone to think we agree with everything in the U.S. chamber." – Ron Long, Board President, Seward Chamber of Commerce, AK	Homer News, 9/21/11
CA	Mountain View Chamber of Commerce	Quit	"As a progressive, I didn't like what the U.S. Chamber was doing with respect to Climate legislation. Since then, it has really become clear that they are a dishonest lobbyist for the Republican platform...With the belt tightening that we're undergoing as we prepare next fiscal year's budget, it was an easy sell to the Board this morning to discontinue our membership. It was an unanimous vote. Effective July 1st of this year, the US Chamber of Commerce will have one fewer (or is it 700 fewer) members."	Daily Kos, 6/23/10
CA	Pasadena Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"...the Pasadena chamber prefers to stay above the fray, and is not affiliated with either group. "Honestly, by design, we don't belong to either one, because they do things and take positions sometimes that are antithetical to what our members think," [Paul] Little said. "People are passionate on both sides, and we prefer not to alienate anybody."	Pasadena Star-News, 10/24/10
CA	San Francisco Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"We take a fundamentally different approach than the US Chamber," says Rob Black, its vice-president of public policy. He adds, "We don't do a whole lot with the US Chamber. It's just a loose federation of business organizations."	Mother Jones, 10/14/09
CO	Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	Marcy Cummins, the chamber's executive director: "The Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce isn't a member of either the state or U.S. chambers...The reason is they are extremely political, and we are more of a community development chamber. For example, you see the U.S. chamber lobbying against health-care reform and financial-regulation reform, and we feel that we don't want to be associated with a group that takes a position on something. Every time they take a position, we get a member who calls us up and says, 'We don't support them, do we?'"	Durango Herald, 7/21/10
CO	Aspen Chamber Resort Association	Denounced	"Some companies feel the chamber's lobbying in Washington, D.C., is 'very obstructive to any legislation going through,' said Debbie Braun, president of the 866-member Aspen Chamber Resort Association, which opposes the U.S. Chamber's stance and met with its regional director. 'We'd like to see the chamber be more constructive in working to get some legislation passed,' Braun said after the meeting..."	Denver Post, 4/6/10
CO	Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"We do not wake up every day checking in with where the U.S. Chamber is on certain things...What we work locally is sometimes totally disconnected with where the U.S. Chamber may be in the issues they're working." -Dave Csintyan, President, Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce	Associated Press, 9/18/11
CT	New Canaan Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"As I listened to all the news reports this weekend, I just wanted to go on record that the New Canaan Chamber has NO (emphasis hers) affiliation with the National Chamber of any kind," she wrote in an e-mail to Patch." - Tucker Murphy, Executive Director of the New Canaan Chamber of Commerce	New Canaan Patch, 10/22/11
CT	Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut	Denounced	"The US Chamber does not speak for local chambers." NPR "On Point with Tom Ashbrook."	NPR, 10/22/09
CT	Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"President of Northwest CT Chamber JoAnn Ryan says she's dealing with the repercussions of the healthcare ad campaign attacking Chris Murphy. Ryan fielded calls from constituents wondering why the local chamber is attacking Chris Murphy which, she says, it's not. 'The chamber here is not attacking Chris Murphy,' she said ...They're doing the job they have to do,' Ryan said of the U.S. chamber, but, 'it's not the approach that I would recommend... This chamber would never come out with ads opposing a congressman'..."	Register Citizen, 11/18/09
CT	Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"The Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce is considering breaking off ties to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, questioning the national organization's use of millions of corporate dollars this election season to lobby and advertise on national issues... 'At a recent board meeting,' [Chamber Executive Director Tricia] Cunningham said, 'we did have a conversation about the U.S. Chamber after learning of their recent political advertisements, and we are evaluating our relationship with the organization. We do not necessarily condone or support the views of the U.S. Chamber.'... 'When it comes to setting political priorities, the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut bases its agenda on the business interests of Connecticut and particularly the eastern region - not the dictates of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce,' [Chamber President and CEO Tony] Sheridan wrote.	The Day, 10/23/11
CT	New Britain Chamber of Commerce		"So that there is no more misunderstanding, the U.S., Chamber of Commerce is not the parent organization of the New Britain Chamber of Commerce. Never has been and doubt, all things considered, that it ever will be... And again, if the U.S. Chamber wants to represent one political party or another, one business sector over another, be my guest. Just don't pretend you are involved with the New Britain Chamber of Commerce." -- William F. Millerick, President, New Britain Chamber of Commerce	New Britain Herald, 11/14/10
FL	Walton Area Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"Florida Gulf Coast chambers of commerce have distanced themselves from comments made by the organization's national president who said that American taxpayers should shoulder more of the burden for BP oil spill cleanup efforts. 'We agree to disagree,' said Dawn Moliterno, president of the Walton Area Chamber of Commerce. 'To say that we as taxpayers should spend more is just wrong.'"	Ledger, 6/15/10

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FL	Largo/Mid Pinellas Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"National and state media coverage of 'chamber of commerce' candidate endorsements and backdoor campaign funding has tainted the image of our associations. Most of the attention has centered on questions about campaign/candidate funding provided by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which the media consistently refers to as "the chamber of commerce," unknowingly (or knowingly) putting us all in the same pot. Adding to the antichamber rhetoric have been the candidate endorsements and attack ads produced by the Florida Chamber of Commerce. It's important to understand that these organizations are, for the most part, political action committees and business lobbyists. They hold little resemblance to the local chambers of commerce that have been the cornerstone of their communities for generations." - Tom Morrisette, president, Largo/Mid-Pinellas Chamber of Commerce	St. Petersburg Times, 10/24/10
IA	Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"It is important to make the clarification that the Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce is a non-partisan, non-candidate endorsing, membership organization that is committed to a pro-growth policy that creates jobs, encourages investment, protects free enterprise and grows our economy. The Dubuque Area Chamber is an independent organization comprised of a local board of directors that makes autonomous decisions from other local, state or national chambers of commerce."	IowaPolitics.com, 10/28/10
IA	Greater Cedar Valley Alliance & Chamber	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"The Greater Cedar Valley Alliance & Chamber, as a matter of longstanding policy, does not endorse any political candidate. The Alliance & Chamber does not authorize or make contributions to any candidate... The Alliance & Chamber strives to make our investors/members, as well as the general public, aware of this distinction. When covering any political activities of the US Chamber, please make every effort to highlight this very important difference between the US Chamber which operates on a national scale, and the Greater Cedar Valley Alliance & Chamber."	IowaPolitics.com, 10/28/10
IA	Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"Specifically, any ads run or funded by the U.S. Chamber targeting Congressmen Braley and Hare are not endorsed or supported in anyway by the Quad Cities Chamber. The Quad Cities Chamber is an independent organization comprised of a local board of directors that makes decisions autonomous from other local, state or national chambers of commerce." --Tara Barney, CEO of Quad Cities CoC	IowaPolitics.com, 10/28/10
KY	Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"...[President Elaine] Spalding does draw some distinctions between her operation and the US Chamber. 'The big difference is that most local chambers, in particularly the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce, is that we don't fund political candidates. We take business advocacy stands. So if the city government or state government was going to enact a tax against the business community we would take a stance on that.'"	WKMS, 10/29/10
MA	Newton-Needham Chamber of Commerce	Quit	"If [Chamber members] want political access then there are many ways that they can individually join a political organization. While we advocate for business, we are not a political organization...It was really not something that we felt was adding to what we're trying to do for our members locally, which is to help them be more successful in business, drive revenue and network." - Bob Halpin, President, Newton-Neeham Chamber of Commerce	WickedLocal.com, 10/5/11
MA	Berkshire Chamber of Commerce	Quit	"The board didn't say 'just for this year,'" Supranowicz said. "We're not renewing our membership.," "We heard so many complaints this year because of the advertising that the U.S. Chamber may have done in other parts of the country that was so partisan, that we felt that at this particular time when our membership comes up for renewal that we will not renew our membership," Supranowicz said. He termed the Berkshire Chamber's decision to withdraw from the national chamber "difficult" because "we've been a member of the U.S. Chamber for so long and received so many tangible benefits.," "I would say a majority of the chambers that were represented in New Bedford had concerns over the U.S. Chamber's advocacy," Supranowicz said. "Over the past three or four years, the U.S. Chamber has really kind of ignited some hot buttons in the issues that they've stood for," said Supranowicz, who used the national chamber's opposition to "cap and trade," a method of controlling pollution, as an example. "Many large organizations left the U.S. Chamber because of the stand that they took on that," he said. --President and CEO Michael Supranowicz	Berkshire Eagle, 1/20/11
MA	Central Mass South Chamber of Commerce	Quit	"Part of what rankles my Board most is that your campaign fueled greater polarization nationwide rather than seizing a true leadership position and applying those resources to a much needed dialogue for collaboration, compromise and focused economic growth and job creation. That would have been far more representative of our interests, have cast Chambers and businesses in a far better light and may well have served as a catalyst for the positive change our nation needs." - Alexandra E. McNiitt, Director, in Letter to U.S. Chamber	Telegram and Gazette, 1/4/11 WickedLocal.com, 10/5/11
MA	Brookline Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"The 560-member Newton-Needham Chamber of Commerce isn't the only local chamber distancing itself from the national organization. Harry Robinson, executive director of the Brookline Chamber of Commerce, told the Needham Times that while his organization has never been affiliated with the national arm he took the extra step to make that clear on the chamber's website when the U.S. Chamber started to ramp up its political stances. Their stands can be a little controversial. We've had a lot of people contact us that were very concerned that we were connected with them," Robinson said. 'I think they are viewed in some circles as more in favor of large corporations as opposed to small businesses and they are viewed as more conservative.'"	WickedLocal.com, 10/5/11
MA	Concord Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"Like most local Chambers, the Concord Chamber of Commerce has no affiliation with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Our revenue is derived entirely from membership dues and fees from membership events, and we receive no government or external funding. We do not pay dues or contribute in any way to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and are an independent Chamber of Commerce serving Concord and the surrounding communities in Massachusetts." Stephanie M. Stillman, Executive Director Concord Chamber of Commerce, MA,	Submitted quote to U.S. Chamber Watch
MA	Lexington Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"...local Lexington businesses (or residents) can become concerned that the Lexington Chamber is somehow supporting the U.S. Chamber. I must strongly emphasize that this is definitely not the case. Despite the verbal shorthand often used by broadcast journalists when they refer to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce as simply 'the chamber of commerce,' there is no relationship between our organization and that Washington-based group of lobbyists." -- Mary Jo BoHart, Executive Director	Wicked Local, 10/29/10
MA	North Shore Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"We're all individual organizations. We have similar missions...We are focused on regional interests. Things like transportation and the cost of health care. And unlike the U.S. Chamber we are a nonpartisan organization. We're very careful about not being viewed as partisan." John Hall, Board Chairman of North Shore Chamber of Commerce	Salem News, 12/8/10
MD	Maryland Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"Kathleen T. Snyder, president and CEO of the Maryland chamber, said that while the state chamber pays dues to the national organization, how the two groups manage budgets and decisions by political action committees is 'totally separate.' Federal laws dictate how they can give money to political candidates, she said. 'I think the U.S. chamber has heard from its membership on this,' Snyder said."	The Gazette, 10/18/10

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ME	Belfast Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"The Belfast Chamber doesn't make endorsements or contribute to the U.S. Chamber."	The Free Press, 10/21/10
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ME	Camden-Rockport-Lincolnton Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"Our position is that we don't take positions on national issues," said Dan Bookham, the executive director of the CRL Chamber. "It's a matter of practicality...We have a diverse membership of 600 people, from tea-partiers to Marxists. It would just cause disruptions and arguments in the business community."	The Free Press, 10/21/10
ME	Penobscot Bay Regional Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"The Penobscot Bay Regional Chamber of Commerce, based in Rockland, also does not endorse candidates, but it has taken positions."	The Free Press, 10/21/10
MO; KS	Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"Isn't affiliated with the U.S. Chamber. Our focus is on civic progress for our two-state region. We do sincerely thank you for your concern - but it's not us."	Huffington Post, 10/21/10
NC	Asheville Chamber of Commerce	Quit	According to the Mountain Express, the local chamber's website indicated "The Asheville Chamber is a non-partisan organization focused on job creation. We find the discussion of membership in the US Chamber to be a distraction from that goal. Therefore, it was the staff's recommendation that we not renew our membership with the US Chamber as of October 2011."	Mountain Express, 10/28/11
NC	Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"Lately, the U.S. chamber has taken positions on health care and gas emissions that are getting lots of publicity, and we wanted to be clear about the relationship between our organizations," Joanne Fiore, chair of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro chamber's board of directors said in a recent email response to The Carrboro Citizen. "We are a separate, autonomous organization and set our own agenda with our own local members' needs in mind."	Carrboro Citizen, 1/7/10
NC	Boone Area Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"At last week's candidate forums, Dan Meyer, president and CEO of the Boone Area Chamber of Commerce, took great pains to disassociate the local Chamber from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. "We ain't them," he said in effect..."	WataugaWatch.net, 10/18/10
NH	Greater Hudson Chamber of Commerce	Quit	"We didn't like the fact that the U.S. Chamber was supporting particular candidates...We don't think it's good business practice to do so...We take stands on particular issues considering business, but not particular candidates..." "I don't believe we lose anything," he said. "As far as I'm concerned, I could not find one positive thing to say about being involved in the U.S. Chamber." —GHCC Executive Vice President Jerry Mayotte	Nashua Telegraph, 10/17/10
NH	Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	Robin Comstock, president and CEO of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce: "We are not accredited by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; we are not a member...The only similarity is that we share a name."	Nashua Telegraph, 10/17/10
NH	Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"May Balsama, executive director of the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce, said it has never been in her chamber's interest to be a member of the U.S. Chamber. "We cover a very large area, and in our towns, there is a broad range of political viewpoints," she said. "While the U.S. Chamber lobbies and does some very good work for our businesses, I know they're also very active in politics, and we determined it would not be appropriate to be part of the membership."	Nashua Telegraph, 10/17/10
NH	Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"Chris Williams, president of the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce, said that group hasn't been a member of the U.S. Chamber for many years. "We have no formal relationship with them, and we have no plans to change that," he said... "The U.S. Chamber of Commerce does a very good job of aggressively promoting its message," he said. "It certainly takes advantage of political season, and that can result in (local chambers) becoming a little uncomfortable."	Nashua Telegraph, 10/17/10
NH	Merrimack Area Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"Merrimack Area Chamber of Commerce board member Mary Hendricks said that group isn't involved with the U.S. Chamber, either, also for political concerns. "We have always tried to be neutral on political issues," she said in an e-mail."	Nashua Telegraph, 10/17/10
NH	Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	[President Robin] Comstock dropped her group's national affiliation and used Facebook and newsletters to hammer home in the run-up to this year's midterms the message that the local Chamber didn't engage in partisan politics. Comstock even refuses to accept a coffee cup with the U.S. Chamber logo for fear she will send mixed messages to her members. "I had a lot of members really, really angry this year, but I don't think I lost any of them. Other chambers did lose members this time," she said. "They didn't have the experience I had gained from last cycle."	Politico, 12/7/10
NM	Taos County Chamber of Commerce	Quit	"Fact: We, at the Taos County Chamber of Commerce, decided in early 2009 to drop our membership in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Therefore we are no longer affiliated in any way with the national chamber."..."Myth: The policies and views of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce are shared by the TCCC. Fact: Nothing could be further from the truth...Because many of the views of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce are opposed to the views of our membership and the business community we decided it would be in our best interests to sever our relationship with the national organization." - Taos County Chamber of Commerce Website, Blog	TaosChamber.com, 11/2/11
NY	New Paltz Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"In New Paltz, executive director Joyce Minard pointed to the group's motto — 'Business, Education, Community, Tourism' — and dismissed any possibility of ever going political. "We don't even belong to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce," she said."	Times Herald Record, 10/27/10
NY	Ulster County Regional Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"My biggest concern in all this is being misperceived that we're related to the national organization," said Ward Todd, president and CEO of the Ulster County Regional Chamber of Commerce.	Times Herald Record, 10/27/10
NY	Greater New York Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"They don't represent me," says Mark Jaffe, its CEO. He added that the Chamber's "parochial interests"—large corporations that control its self-appointed board of directors—"are well represented."	Mother Jones, 10/14/09

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NY	Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"While the group's individual members are still uncertain about the ultimate impact of the legislation on their businesses, they agree with many of the underlying principles of the Democratic legislation, Hum says: 'A lot of the small business community supports the idea that everybody should have health insurance. This is a basic need for everybody.' Just the same, Hum still shares some of the conservative criticisms of reform...But Hum stresses that such concerns are likely to fade over time. 'That's a bit of a hiccup, a bump—whatever you want to call it—in affordability. In the long run, I think the business community will be supportive of the reform act.' Like many other small-business leaders, Hum held out hope that the state-based insurance exchanges, which will begin in 2014, would help small businesses become better equipped to access and afford health insurance for their employees." --Carl Hum, President, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce	Mother Jones, 1/25/11
PA	Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce	Quit	When asked if they were members of the U.S. Chamber, Christopher Pinto, communications vice-president of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, said "Unfortunately, we are." Pinto explains that the Philadelphia Chamber joined to get free access to a piece of expensive software and does not plan to renew next year. "We don't believe it's an ethical way to use the Chamber dues," says Pinto, who regularly fields calls about the U.S. Chamber's attack ads. "It's upsetting and it's frustrating, and we are absolutely not in support of it. We think there are a lot of other things the U.S. Chamber could do to make a better business climate than to run ads for Republicans and Tea Partiers."	Alternet, 10/28/10
PA	York Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	<i>Mentioned in article.</i>	Lebanon Daily News, 10/27/10
PA	Chamber of Business and Industry of Centre County	Denounced	"...As some of these final political advertisements seem to be taking a turn for the worse, the CBICC would like to clarify the Chamber's position as it relates to the Pennsylvania state Chamber of Commerce and the United States Chamber of Commerce. The CBICC is a member of both organizations but does not contribute any resources to directly support any political position of either organization, nor do we contribute to any political action committees operated or supported by these (or any other) organizations." -- David Wise, President and CEO of the CBICC	Centre Daily Times, 10/28/10
PA	Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"'We're not involved in endorsements,' Larry Bowman, the local Chamber's president, said Tuesday. 'We are active (politically) with our Government Affairs Committee.'... 'The U.S. Chamber has its own list of candidates,' Bowman said. 'We are not contributors to the U.S. Chamber PAC (political action committee). We are dues-paying members.'"	Lebanon Daily News, 10/27/10
PA	Butler County Chamber of Commerce/	Denounced	"Stan Kosciuszko, president of the Butler County, Pennsylvania, Chamber of Commerce, which is no longer a member of the Chamber, said, 'They've abandoned the interests of smaller chambers like mine for their larger corporate members.'"	Washington Monthly, July/August 2010
PA	Lancaster Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"In light of comments the Lancaster Chamber has been receiving regarding U.S. Chamber political commercials, we want to be clear on our policy on advocacy and endorsements, and our relationship with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The Lancaster Chamber is a member of the U.S. Chamber, but is a separate and independent entity. The policy decisions made by our board of directors are not based on, or beholden to, any past or current policy of the U.S. Chamber. We are not a member of the U.S. Chamber's Political Action Committee, nor do we endorse the U.S. Chamber campaign-related media." -- Letter to the editor by Lancaster Chamber President, Thomas Baldrige	Intelligencer Journal/New Era, 10/27/10
PA	Venango Area Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"The Venango Area Chamber of Commerce does not currently hold membership in the U.S. Chamber."	VengangoChamber.org, 10/25/10
SC	South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"The U.S. Chamber of Commerce does not represent the interests of small businesses that have suffered because of the irresponsible actions of the nation's biggest banks... Borrowing the line from our former first lady Nancy Reagan, Congress should 'just say no'—to the U.S. Chamber. The financial health of our country and our small businesses depends on it." -- Frank Knapp Jr., President and CEO of the chamber	SC Small Business Chamber of Commerce, 7/12/10
UT	Draper Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"William Rappleye, president of the Draper Chamber of Commerce...points in particular to the tax credits for employee health insurance that some small businesses will be eligible for, starting with the 2010 tax cycle. 'They're happy about the fact that there are credits there to offset costs involved for them,' he says. 'Very small business hasn't been able to afford health care for its employees.' Though "the jury is still out" for the Draper business community about the overall legislation, he says most of his members 'look forward to some reform.' Rappleye adds that he personally feels adamant that reform shouldn't be overturned. 'Hopefully they don't throw the whole thing out—and this is coming from a Republican...I don't believe we're in a place in this country where we're just going to throw people in the street and let them die. We have to have some sort of safety net.'"	Mother Jones, 1/25/11
UT	Salt Lake Chamber	Denounced	"Salt Lake City's branch, for instance, has slammed the legislation for failing to control costs—one of the major Republican criticisms of the legislation. Yet at the same time, the group has broken from the GOP party line by emphasizing some of the positive aspects of reform, as well as its desire to improve the legislation, rather than shredding it. When asked whether the Salt Lake Chamber opposed federal reform as a whole, spokesman Marty Carpenter declined to answer the question directly: He referred Mother Jones to principles outlined on the group's website to get a sense of "where we felt they hit and missed it" and stressed that the Salt Lake Chamber supported 'continuing to work to better that legislation'...The Chamber's support for repeal 'doesn't mean we're always in lockstep with them on everything—their position doesn't control our vote,' says Carpenter, noting that the Salt Lake Chamber hasn't taken a formal position on repeal.	Mother Jones, 1/25/11 Washington Monthly, July/August 2010
VA	Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"I Now Have A Standard E-Mail Saying We're Not A Chapter Of The U.S. Chamber That I Have To Send Out A Couple Of Times A Week." -- Timothy Hulbert, President of the Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce	Washington Monthly, July/August 2010
VT	Brattleboro Chamber of Commerce	Denounced, not a U.S. Chamber member.	"Here in Vermont, along with the 38 other local Chambers, the BACC enjoys automatic membership in the Vermont Chamber of Commerce. However we are not through that association members of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce -- unless we choose to be. The Brattleboro Area Chamber has chosen not to be."	ThinkProgress.org, 10/22/10
WA	Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"At the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce in Washington, officials hope to avoid a similar discussion about nonrenewal of its membership. "What we'd prefer to do at this point is have conversations with the U.S. Chamber representatives, so we can be more respectful of each other's constituencies," said George Allen, senior vice president of government relations with the Seattle Chamber."	Politico, 12/7/10
WI	Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce	Denounced	"Absolutely no penny is spent on politics..."We do not have a PAC. It would be illegal to spend member dues for or against a candidate. So we do not do that..."We're not here to fight their [the U.S. Chamber's] battles." - Delores Newton, executive vice president of the Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce	Isthmus, 10/21/10

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