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The debate over Healthcare is one of the most important issues we as Americans will have this century. It defines who we are as a nation and who we will be to the next generation.

While there are certain parts of President Obama's healthcare law- "Obamacare"- that I support, including the segment on pre-existing conditions, overall I believe that the bill over-reaches the authority of the federal government, and needs to be repealed for a variety of reasons.

First, as we have seen unfold throughout our country, including right here in South Florida, the healthcare law has been detrimental to the survival and growth of small businesses. Employers are choosing to drop healthcare for their employees, which will flood the government-run system, eventually leading to lower-quality healthcare. Small businesses are beginning to hire part time instead of full time employees in order to avoid the requirement. And perhaps most concerning, since businesses with less than 51 employees are exempt from the new mandate requiring employers to provide healthcare, employers are choosing not to grow their businesses beyond a certain level.

While many may argue that this is a law about health care, it is truly an issue about the long term viability of our economy. America's unemployment rate has been close to 10 percent in 2010, while Florida suffers with over 12 percent unemployed. Many small business owners have expressed their frustration to me that this legislation is badly hurting their businesses, thus contributing to the high unemployment we are all faced with.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives and with President Obama to pass real healthcare reform that does not compromise our economic viability.

