



AEO *Association for
Enterprise Opportunity*
THE VOICE OF MICROBUSINESS

AEO Statement on Rep. Jo Ann Emerson's Resignation

December 4, 2012 – AEO congratulates Rep. Jo Ann Emerson (R-MO) on her new role as president and Chief Executive Officer of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

While we regret that Congress is losing such a bulwark champion for small business, we do celebrate Rep. Emerson's tremendous achievement. We also applaud her outstanding service of 16 years to Missouri constituents and Main Street microbusinesses across America.

In her tenure as Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, Rep. Emerson proved to be a friend to AEO, and a stalwart champion of small business. She inherently understood the collective power of Main Street USA to revitalize local economies, and create jobs.

Rep. Emerson's support for business assistance programs, such as those at the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Department of Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund was unmatched, often making special note of their importance to our nation's entrepreneurs.

Thank you, Rep. Emerson. Your fervor, passion and commitment to America's 25.5 million Main Street microbusinesses will be missed.

AEO looks forward to working with Rep. Emerson's replacement, and continuing its mission to be the voice of microbusiness.