

Cleaners Name _____

Cleaners Address _____

March 12, 2011

Dear Senator,

This is a family run business and we had been providing for several employees. Facing this recession has caused me to let my employees go. Many people are hoping the economy picks up but that's not the case for Perc dry cleaners. I have been using Perc as my dry cleaning solvent for years. It has cleaned my clothes as well as my customers taking out spots, keeping color and etc. My friends who use other solvents have to use extra solvents to pre spot and still spots do not come out. If this is the case, why would anyone come to the dry cleaners? Personally, I would not go if spots do not come out.

If SB1617 passes, this may cause me to run out of business. I am barely keeping up with my bills. I have been late paying rent and begged the landlord to lower the rent. Even so my utilities bills are late, house payments, my children's college tuitions, and etc. Passing SB1617 will force me to purchase a dry cleaning machine as soon as the bill passes. I understand that if the bill is passed there is a decent amount of years but that's only on paper. My customers will not want their clothes cleaned with a solvent that is banned and I can not sell unless I reduce the cost of the new machine. I do not have the money to invest in a new machine therefore the selling value of my facility is over \$75,000 less now. I can not i to support my family if I can not even sell my facility. The minimum 80 hours a week that my family and I have put into my business weekly for years has now been a waste.

I have tried several things to improve my business and attract people to come into my facility such as making a website, sending out coupons, advertising in local newspapers/schools/television and etc but it has not helped with the income. My customers have been laid off and have more time to prepare their own clothes instead of bringing them into my dry cleaning facility. People have been reluctant to spend money and still can not save. I was looking forward to 2011 since the economy was supposed to be rising but in my industry is seems to have made a different impact. My business has been facing more hardships than 2010. My heart is breaking to the thought that SB 1617 might be passed. This will cause me and most of my industry to go out of business.

Please protect our livelihood by voting against SB 1617. Please consider my industries situation as a small family owned business.

Thank you.

Name

Owner

Cleaners Name _____
Cleaners Address _____
Cleaners address _____

March 12, 2011

Dear Senator,

Illinois is trying to pass the Perchloroethylene (Perc) Ban SB1617 supported by Senator Heather A. Steans and Senator Emil Jones, III, please vote against this bill. The bill is a detailed plan to stop the usage of Perc in only dry cleaning facilities. If this bill is passed, the impact would cause the industry to fail so please help support dry cleaners to survive. Over 75% of the dry cleaning industry uses Perc.

Agencies are being funded by the government or companies but one nonprofit organization in which I am a member is helping my industry fight to survive. There are still about 1000 dry cleaners remaining throughout Illinois but many are facing to be closed or turned into a drop off facility. Passing this legislation may cause many dry cleaners to disappear quickly. Is the state ready to give up getting nice cleaned clothes from the dry cleaners?

It will make the dry cleaning machine that I currently have obsolete and force me to purchase new machine that will cost over \$60,000 which I can't afford. So this bill will basically force me out of business. Also, currently, there is no alternative cleaning solvent that is as effective as perc.

Please save our cleaners by voting against SB 1617.

This letter is in regards to SB 1617. This bill will phase out the use of the drycleaning solvent, perc, which is currently being used by over 75% of the dry cleaners. SB 1617 will basically force all the dry cleaners that have perc machines to buy new machines, which will cost well over \$65,000, or go out of business. Only people that would benefit from this bill are the equipment vendors and large dry cleaners who can afford to buy the new equipment. All the small mom and pop cleaners, which make up over 75% of the cleaning industry, will be devastated by the bill and forced to go out of business.

Please protect our livelihood by voting against SB 1617. Please consider my industries situation as a small family owned business.

Thank you.

Name
Owner

Cleaners Name
Cleaners Address
Cleaners address

March 12, 2011

Dear Senator,

Please vote against SB 1617 which will ban the use of perc. The passing of the SB 1617 will have a tremendous negative effect on the dry cleaning industry. It will make the dry cleaning machine that I currently have obsolete and force me to purchase new machine that will cost over \$60,000 which I can't afford. So this bill will basically force me out of business. Also, currently, there is no alternative cleaning solvent that is as effective as perc.

Please save our cleaners by voting against SB 1617.

Sincerely,

Name
Owner

March 12, 2011

Dear Senator,

This letter is in regards to SB 1617. This bill will phase out the use of the drycleaning solvent, perc, which is currently being used by over 75% of the dry cleaners. SB 1617 will basically force all the dry cleaners that have perc machines to buy new machines, which will cost well over \$65,000, or go out of business. Only people that would benefit from this bill are the equipment vendors and large dry cleaners who can afford to buy the new equipment. All the small mom and pop cleaners, which make up over 75% of the cleaning industry, will be devastated by the bill and forced to go out of business.

Please protect our livelihood by voting against SB 1617.

Thanks you for your help in this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Name

Name of the cleaners _____

City, IL _____

Cleaners Name _____
Cleaners Address _____
Cleaners address _____

March 12, 2011

Dear Senator,

Please vote against SB 1617, which would ban the use of Perchloroethylene by dry cleaners in Illinois. This bill, if passed, would have a devastating impact on one of the few remaining small business industries.

As a family-run dry cleaners, we have been barely surviving through the current economic turndown. However, by tightening our belts and cutting expenses, we will hopefully make it to the other side of these hard times. If SB 1617 is enacted into law, it will be a damaging blow to family run dry cleaners. We, and others like us, would have a tremendous capital expenditure in the coming years, in order to meet the new requirements. The manufacturing companies that produce alternative dry cleaning machines/solvents, would have tremendous leverage over the small businesses, due to their size and because we small businesses would have no choice. The expense of purchasing a new \$60,000+ dry cleaning machine is not something we can afford now during the economic downturn, and will not be one that we can make once the economic recovery takes place. If we are forced to make this type of expenditure, the big business corporate run dry cleaners will have a substantial leg up on us, with their greater ability to raise capital.

Even more importantly, many of the current owners of dry cleaners are first generation immigrants, who are part of the baby boomer generation. They are nearing retirement age, and many are counting on selling their business as part of their retirement fund. If SB 1617 passes, the most important asset of the business would become obsolete, impairing the value of the business. As an owner that is relying on the sale value of my business for my retirement, please consider the impact of SB 1617 on hard working Americans like me.

Please help preserve one of the few remaining family run industries. Please vote against SB 1617. Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns.

Very Truly Yours,

Name
Owner

Cleaners Name _____
Cleaners Address _____
Cleaners address _____

March 12, 2011

Dear Senator,

I am writing you to express my concern with SB 1617. The bill bans the use of Perchloroethylene by Illinois dry cleaners. This bill may put my life's work at risk.

As you may know, dry cleaning is one industry where small business owners have been able to compete against the large corporations. This is due to the attention to detail put into the business by owner/operators of dry cleaners, and the dedication and commitment to a business you own. Unfortunately, all of that may not matter if we are forced to compete with big business on their turf, raising cash for very expensive new equipment.

We are struggling to survive the recession, and cannot afford to buy new \$70,000 machines now, and likely will not be able to afford a new machine in the years after the recovery starts. When you vote on SB 1617, please vote for small businesses and vote NO.

Thank you for your time.

Best Regards,

Name
Owner

March 12, 2011

Dear Senator,

This letter is in regards to bill SB 1617. Please do not allow this to pass.

As you know, most industries are all hurting in this economic climate including the dry cleaning industry definitely one of them. We are hoping that we, like others, will be able to pull through these difficult times.

Unfortunately, with this bill trying to ban the primary chemical used by dry cleaners, Perchloroethylene (PERC), this may be a blow to almost all of us small business owned dry cleaners.

If the PERC ban bill passes, all dry cleaners will be forced to replace all of the cleaning equipment which will be a cost of a minimum \$60,000. This will be a blow that most cleaners, especially in this economy, will not be able to recover from.

The alternatives to PERC are known to be not nearly as effective and business going forward will suffer even more.

Please vote 'NO' to save our industry.

Name _____
Owner _____
Cleaners Name _____
Cleaners Address _____
Cleaners address _____

Cleaners Name _____

Cleaners Address _____

Cleaners address _____

Dear Senator,

Please do not allow the bill SB 1617 to pass. This is a bill to ban Perchlorethylyene (PERC) that is used by the large majority of all dry cleaners. This will create a hardship for my business that I am afraid I will not be able to recover from

The studies done for PERC only prove that long term ingestion of the chemical may cause harm. When well regulated and disposed of properly, the chemical PERC is completely harmless to us, the workers, and you the clients.

The alternatives to PERC are not as effective of a cleaning solution and this will cause a financial strain on my business of a minimum of \$60,000. The dry cleaning industry is one of the few businesses that are predominantly run by us small business owners. Please do not allow us to die out because of this bill.

Name

Owner

March 12, 2011

Dear Senator,

I am writing you to express my concern with SB 1617 as a dry cleaning customer. I have been going to dry cleaners to get my clothes cleaned and pressed. In this tough economy I could not afford my dry cleaning raising their prices or closing down. The convenience to stop by before or after work with the friendly service of the owner has made me come back for years. I would not want to lose that comfort and quality. Please re examine the bill that bans the use of Perchloroethylene in Illinois dry cleaners. This bill may put my dry cleaners work at risk.

Dry cleaning is one industry where small business owners have been able to compete against the large corporations. This is due to the attention to detail put into the business by owner/operators of dry cleaners, and the dedication and commitment to their business. Unfortunately, all of that may not matter if they are forced to compete with big business on their turf, raising cash for very expensive new equipment. As a customer I was not aware that dry cleaners were going to be forced to change machines and solvent by the state when there is not a good alternate solvent currently on the market.

My dry cleaners have been telling me that they are struggling to survive due to the recession. Therefore it would be my conclusion that they cannot afford to buy new \$70,000 machines now, and likely will not be able to afford a new machine in the years after the recovery starts. When you vote on SB 1617, please vote for small businesses and please vote NO.

Thank you for your time.

Best Regards,

Name _____

Valued customer of

Cleaners Name _____

Cleaners Address _____
