

July 13, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Capitol Building
H-232
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Capitol Building
H-204
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Main Street Businesses Urge Passage of the Common Cents Act

Dear Speaker Johnson and Minority Leader Jeffries:

The undersigned associations represent Main Street businesses that serve and employ millions of Americans across the nation every day. These businesses—large and small—must be able to continue serving their communities in ways that are fair to everyone and avoid unintended operational hurdles that are being caused by the halt in U.S. penny production. We write to urge you and your colleagues to quickly pass the bipartisan Common Cents Act (H.R. 3074) as amended when it comes to a vote on the House floor this week.

We deeply appreciate the hard work and consensus-building efforts to reach this bipartisan agreement, and applaud Representatives Lisa McClain (R-MI) and Robert Garcia (D-CA) as bill sponsors and House Financial Services Committee Chairman French Hill (R-AR) and Ranking Member Maxine Waters (D-CA) and their staffs for their leadership on this critical issue.

Since the U.S. Mint produced its last pennies over a year ago, businesses across the country have faced cascading impacts from the lack of pennies in circulation, operating under constant uncertainty about how handle cash transactions when exact change is unavailable. All the potential options today create the risk of potential legal challenges and significant financial losses.

As of this month, more than 15 states have enacted laws governing cash rounding. This is confusing to businesses and their customers. We need a clear standard from Congress allowing businesses to round cash transaction amounts and a safe harbor from liability in doing so fairly. The Common Cents Act as amended provides the exact solution Main Street businesses and their customers need.

Businesses and their customers across the country deserve certainty and consistency in their everyday cash transactions and need this legislation to pass Congress as quickly as possible. As such, we urge you and your colleagues to vote YES on the Common Cents Act to ensure that we can continue to serve our customers without interruption.

Sincerely,

American Beverage Licensees
American Booksellers Association
American Hotel & Lodging Association
Coalition of Franchisee Associations
Energy Marketers of America
FMI – The Food Industry Association
International Franchise Association
Merchant Advisory Group
National Association of Convenience Stores
National Grocers Association
National Restaurant Association
National Retail Federation
NATSO, Representing America's Travel Centers and Truck Stops
OHI – Outdoor Hospitality Industry
Retail Industry Leaders Association
SIGMA: America's Leading Fuel Marketers

CC: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives