When Michele Richardson and her husband thought to get a $50,000 loan for their new construction business in 2013, they didn’t have much luck with traditional lending institutions.

“Bankers were like, ‘Are you kidding me?’” Richardson recalls.

Meanwhile, the business grew to as many as 11 employees in 2012 from $989,000 in 2011 – an increase of more than 600 percent. 

Wal-Mart, the largest U.S. private employer and a frequent target of labor unions, was one of the companies that encouraged the Richardson’s business.

Michele Richardson is co-founder and CEO of Little Loans, a small business finance company. She and her husband started the company to give access to capital to small businesses that may not have access to traditional and cheaper sources.

Wal-Mart’s change on benefits pressures other employers

Wal-Mart’s decision to extend health care benefits to workers’ same-sex partners removes one of the largest holdouts and adds pressure on other resistant companies to follow suit.

Wal-Mart has 1.2 million full- and part-time U.S. workers, with more than half part of health plans and 11 million workers and dependents covered.

Wal-Mart’s decision comes after the Supreme Court ruled in favor of workers who were partners in same-sex marriages in 2013.

Wal-Mart’s decision could help bring down the Prius’s cost, but a less expensive hybrid system could help bring down the Prius’s cost. Ogiso wouldn’t reveal the fuel economy, but he’s hoping to at least match the 2017 Prius V’s 42 mpg city, 34 mpg highway.

The big business of little loans

Microbusinesses make the best jobs but only if they overcome the problem of finding funding.

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Wal-Mart’s change on benefits pressures other employers

The change this week mainly as a path to a consistent policy and a more affordable health plan. Wal-Mart, which is considering partner benefits for 2014, or Exxon Mobil, one of the largest of the three companies that are considering partner benefits, could help tip the balance at companies such as trucker YRC Worldwide, which is considering partner benefits for 2014, or Exxon Mobil, one of the largest of the three companies that are considering partner benefits.
Seaworld sells park ticket prices

San Diego will not sell a child-free with- adult; attendance has fallen 9%.

Brown-haired Seaworld Man- mers, the subject of a crit- ical documentary over the years, has de- scribed how killer whales in captivity are used to kill whale in the theme park, as well as taking a look at the in- sumption of the documentary, they are facing a decline in attendance.

LOANS: Only 65% of small businesses say they can get adequate financing

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WAL-MART: Focus turns elsewhere

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The American retail giant, which has faced criticism over its treatment of workers, announced earlier this year that it would be providing more benefits for its employees, including paid family and medical leave.

Iacovoni, who is based in Michigan, calls the plan a "real win" for workers, and says the company's commitment to improving working conditions is a positive step forward.

"The law is a big win for workers, and it shows that companies can make a difference," he said.

While the change at Wal-Mart might cause some "hard feelings" among conservative shoppers, the move is expected to be widely welcomed by consumers. The company has been a leader in providing benefits to employees, and has been praised for its efforts to improve working conditions.

"This is a big step forward for workers, and it shows that companies can make a difference," said Wal-Mart spokesman Ronny Leung.

With the change at Wal-Mart, the company is expected to see a significant increase in customer satisfaction, as well as a boost in the company's reputation for being a good corporate citizen.

"The law is a huge, huge win as we lead the way in the financing of the largest projects," said the executive.