

NFIB

The Voice of Small Business.®

ALASKA

January 21, 2014

The Honorable Geran Tarr
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: House Bill 228

Dear Representative Tarr:


On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business/Alaska, I wish to respectfully indicate our opposition to House Bill 228 requiring special areas for nursing mothers. The National Federation of Independent Business is the largest small-business advocacy group in Alaska.

House Bill 228 requires businesses to provide special areas for mothers to breastfeed or to express breast milk. This requirement is already included in federal law. It was added by the Affordable Care Act in 2010 by adding Section 7(r) to the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 207). A copy of the section is attached.

One of the greatest problems identified by small businesses is trying to comply with the inordinate number of state and federal regulations. Life becomes even more difficult for small businesses when both the state and the federal governments regulate the same things in their own ways. Trying to please these two separate entities is difficult at best.

This issue is well covered by federal legislation. We do not believe that state legislation is necessary.

Sincerely yours,



Dennis L. DeWitt
Alaska State Director

Cc: NFIB/AK Leadership Council
Representative Harriet Drummond
Representative Beth Kerttula
House Labor & Commerce Committee

Attachment