



May 15, 2015

The Honorable Vicky Hartzler
U.S. House of Representatives
2235 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Hartzler:

On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), the nation's leading small business advocacy organization, I'm writing in support of H.R. 1932, a bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to allow employers a grace period to abate certain occupational health and safety violations before being subject to a penalty under such Act.

Unfortunately, many small business owners cannot afford a full-time compliance staff. Consequently, they are exposed to face potential paperwork penalties and even errors that could be made in good faith while taking more time and more money from running their businesses. The most recent monthly report of the NFIB Small Business Economic Trends survey points out the number one response of NFIB members is "government requirements and red tape" when asked what the single biggest problem is facing their business.

NFIB believes small businesses should be given an opportunity to correct minor violations when the public or employees are not in imminent danger. H.R. 1932 would do that by giving small businesses the chance to address lesser Occupational Safety and Health Administration violations that are not willful, repeated, or serious. Accordingly, only those violations that do not pose a danger will be forgiven.

Thank you again for introducing H.R. 1932. NFIB strongly supports its passage to make sure regulations are pragmatic and sensible in order to facilitate economic growth within the small business community. We look forward to working with you on this, and similar measures to protect small business as the 114th Congress moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amanda Austin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amanda Austin
Vice President
Public Policy