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Florida Small Businesses Join Fight for ‘Sensible Regulation,’ Job Growth
~ Coalition to Advocate for Small Businesses Struggling with Burdensome Regulations ~

TALLAHASSEE, October 12, 2011 – Small Businesses for Sensible Regulations, a new coalition created by the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), launched their Florida efforts today to explain how numerous federal regulations coming out of Washington are stifling small business growth in the Sunshine State. A recent online NFIB/Florida member poll found 90 percent of respondents feel federal overregulation is hampering their ability to operate and grow their business while half of the respondents stated they find it extremely difficult to comprehend the federal regulations facing their companies.

“Owning and operating a small business is hard enough, but the incessant and superfluous rules handed down by federal regulators are creating additional and unnecessary burdens for Florida’s job creators,” said NFIB/Florida Executive Director Bill Herrle. “It is our hope Small Businesses for Sensible Regulations brings this important issue to the forefront and encourages the White House to realize there is a serious problem. Small business owners in Florida are facing regulatory hardships on both the state and federal levels, with over 4,000 new federal regulations in the pipeline and thousands of needless rules in the books here in the Sunshine State.”

In August, NFIB launched Small Businesses for Sensible Regulations, a national effort focused on protecting small businesses from the impacts of regulations recently proposed by the Obama administration. So far, more than 850 businesses and associations across the country have joined the coalition to ensure government regulations don’t prevent the creation of American jobs or slow economic recovery. In Florida, the coalition has gained the support of more than 200 small business owners.

“As a Florida business owner for 39 years and an employer of hardworking Floridians, I joined this coalition to voice my concern for the federal regulatory overreach that is taking place throughout our country,” said Jay Lunt, Folkers Window Company President. “If small businesses are continually required to comply with new regulations that are both overwhelming and expensive, how can we expect to sustain our companies in today’s uncertain economy?”

Herrle was joined by Lunt and another NFIB/Florida member and small business owner, Don Curtis, President of The Forestry Company. Both businessmen shared their personal experiences regarding regulatory compliance requirements and how they have prevented their businesses from growing and contributing to the economy.

“While it is understandable there are rules and regulations all businesses and industries should follow, the number of regulations that have developed in the past two to three years have drastically increased,” said Don Curtis, The Forestry Company President. “Today it seems not even a week goes by before I’m made aware of a new regulation that could impact my company. If the federal government continues to increase the number of regulations small businesses must adhere to, there is a good chance even the most successful businesses may not survive.”

Today’s launch efforts in Florida follow President Obama’s visit to Orlando yesterday and Gov. Rick Scott’s announcement this afternoon surrounding his job priorities for the upcoming legislative session.

“The last thing any of us wants is for our country to slip back into recession, so I hope the Obama Administration is listening to Florida’s small business community,” concluded Herrle. “NFIB/Florida is committed to fighting the federal regulatory agenda that is strangling our small business community, and we plan to work alongside Gov. Scott in the upcoming session to provide business owners relief from Florida’s burdensome regulatory scheme, as well. Small Businesses for Sensible Regulations is trying to reduce the burden on small businesses by bringing together those who have to contend with the cumbersome federal regulatory maze every day.”

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Visit www.sensibleregulations.org for more information.

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NFIB is the nation's leading small business association, with offices in Washington, D.C. and all 50 state capitals. Founded in 1943 as a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, NFIB gives small- and independent-business owners a voice in shaping the public policy issues that affect their business. NFIB's powerful network of grassroots activists sends its views directly to state and federal lawmakers through our unique member-only ballot, thus playing a critical role in supporting America's free enterprise system. NFIB's mission is to promote and protect the right of our members to own, operate and grow their businesses. More information about NFIB is available online at www.NFIB.com/newsroom.