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Florida Takes Center Stage in NFIB's Nine-State Effort to Stop Obama Administration Regulatory Tidal Wave

~ Concerns Mount with more than 4,100 Regulations Pending in Washington ~

TALLAHASSEE, August 2, 2012 – The next four years could bring a tidal wave of costly federal regulations impacting U.S. businesses and consumers, according to new analysis by the National Federation of Independent Business' coalition, *Small Businesses for Sensible Regulations*. There are currently 4,128 federal regulations in the pipeline which, if implemented, will impose costs of more than \$515 billion on the U.S. economy.

“We must address the damage this administration is doing if we are to create jobs and growth,” said Bill Herrle, NFIB/FL Executive Director. “With Florida’s unemployment around 8.6%, our economy doesn’t need more costly federal regulations that will further stall economic recovery. Washington needs to do a better job analyzing and enforcing regulations that are already on the books before they allow more to be implemented.”

NFIB/FL is part of a nine-state education campaign focused on highlighting the stories of its small business members in the media and through local events to explain the impacts these regulations could impose on small-business growth. The other eight states involved with the campaign are Colorado, Iowa, Missouri, North Carolina, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

“As a third generation small-business owner, I fully understand the crushing impact that Washington overregulation has on Florida’s job creators,” said Congressman Steve Southerland. “Hardworking small-business owners have been paralyzed by the administration’s impending regulatory tidal wave, so it is more important than ever that Congress continues to advance a common-sense agenda that empowers our small businesses to create jobs and strengthen our economy.”

Because of the current regulations in the pipeline, Florida could see an impact on major industries, such as manufacturing and construction, which collectively employ 954,383 people and contribute **over \$90 billion** to the Florida economy annually.

“In order to help Florida’s small businesses, we need sensible, clear, and fair regulations. This will allow us to grow, hire and invest, which will strengthen America’s economy,” said Jerry Pierce, owner of Orlando-based small business Restaurant Equipment World.

NFIB’s analysis can be accessed here: <http://stopthetidalwave.org>

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Poll after poll demonstrates that regulatory burdens are a top reason why small businesses are not hiring at pace with previous years. In fact, a Gallup poll earlier this year found 85 percent of small businesses surveyed weren't hiring and about half cited government regulations as the principal reason.

Last year, Small Businesses for Sensible Regulations along with the National Federation of Independent Businesses sent an open letter to President Obama proposing five common-sense principles to help reform the regulatory system. They include: giving small businesses a greater voice in the federal regulatory process; providing assistance to small businesses before assessing penalties; requiring major federal rules to undergo rigorous cost-benefit analysis; basing regulatory decisions only on objective, validated science; and requiring more transparency and accountability in the regulatory process.

ABOUT SMALL BUSINESSES FOR SENSIBLE REGULATIONS

A project of the National Federation of Independent Business, Small Businesses for Sensible Regulations is a national effort representing the interests of 350,000 small businesses focused on protecting small businesses and American jobs from the impacts of the increasing number and burdensome nature of federal regulations proposed by the Obama administration

ABOUT NFIB

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan small business association representing small and independent businesses in all 50 state capitals. NFIB's mission is to promote and protect the right of our members to own, operate and grow their businesses.

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