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March 29, 2023

Dear Representative,

On behalf of NFIB, the nation's leading small business advocacy organization, I write in strong support of H.R. 1, the *Lower Energy Costs Act*. This legislation would increase energy production and streamline the permitting process for energy-related projects. **This legislation will be considered an NFIB Key Vote for the 118th Congress.**

NFIB members continue to rank inflation as the top small business problem.¹ In a recent NFIB survey, 79% of small employers reported that rising fuel prices (gasoline, diesel, fuel oil, etc.) are a substantial contributor to higher costs.² Nearly all (96%) of small employers reported higher gas and fuel prices have some degree of a negative impact on their business.³ Small businesses are desperate for relief.

H.R. 1 will help small businesses by increasing energy production, decreasing energy costs, and reducing regulatory burdens that harm economic growth. NFIB members overwhelmingly agree with these outcomes. In a recent NFIB member ballot, more than 88% of small business owners support streamlining regulations to facilitate the production and transport of oil, natural gas, and other energy sources in the United States.

NFIB supports H.R. 1 and will consider the legislation an NFIB Key Vote for the 118th Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Kuhlman". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kevin Kuhlman
Vice President, Federal Government Relations
NFIB

¹ William C. Dunkelberg and Holly Wade, *Small Business Economic Trends Survey*, NFIB Research Center, March 14, 2023, <https://strgnfibcom.blob.core.windows.net/nfibcom/SBET-Feb-2023-1.pdf>.

² *Small Business and Inflation*, NFIB Research Center, July 19, 2022, <https://assets.nfib.com/nfibcom/NFIB-Inflation-Survey-Questionnaire-June-July-2022.pdf>.

³ *Ibid.*