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Washington, D.C. 20004

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NFIB.com

April 18, 2024

Dear Senator:

On behalf of NFIB, the nation's leading small business advocacy association, I write in strong support of S. 4072, a bill to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce certain rules of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). More specifically, this legislation would prevent the EPA from creating a de facto electric vehicle (EV) mandate that would limit consumer choices and increase costs for small businesses.

In a recent NFIB member ballot, 96% of NFIB members believe that the federal government should not restrict the purchase of consumer products like new gas-powered vehicles.<sup>1</sup> Our members believe that businesses and consumers should be free to decide which vehicle works best for their operations and individual needs.

NFIB represents approximately 300,000 small and independent businesses across the country, many of which are based in rural areas. These rural areas lack the infrastructure necessary to accommodate electric vehicles. Small business owners like plumbers, electricians, and landscapers use their vehicles, including pick-up trucks and some vans, as offices on wheels, and any disruption to their day for long charging times is lost business that impacts their families and employees.

Small businesses understand that this rule is simply not feasible. According to one report, only 8% of new auto sales were electric last year.<sup>2</sup> However, under this "coerced phase-out of gas-powered cars," no more than 30% of auto sales can be gas-powered cars by 2032.<sup>3</sup>

This burdensome rule will increase costs for small businesses at a time when inflation continues to be the top problem affecting small businesses.<sup>4</sup> NFIB strongly supports S. 4072, and it will be considered an NFIB Key Vote for the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress.

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<sup>1</sup> *Mandate*, vol. 583, NFIB Member Ballot, October 2023, *Should the federal government ban or restrict the purchase of consumer products like new gas-powered vehicles and equipment or natural gas cooktops?* (Yes: 2% No: 96% Undecided: 2%).

<sup>2</sup> *Biden's EV Mandate Blows Its Cover*, Wall St. J., Mar. 20, 2024, <https://www.wsj.com/articles/joe-biden-electric-vehicle-mandate-gas-powered-cars-2032-epa-c2a72414>.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> *Small Business Optimism Index*, NFIB Research Center, March 2024, <https://www.nfib.com/surveys/small-business-economic-trends/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Temple". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and a stylized "T".

Adam Temple  
Senior Vice President for Advocacy  
NFIB