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May 21, 2024

Dear Senator:

On behalf of NFIB, the nation's leading small business advocacy organization, I write in support of S.J. Res. 58, the Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolution to repeal the Department of Energy (DOE) final rule on gas furnace efficiency standards. This burdensome regulation will increase inflationary pressures affecting small business owners and limit their choices. **This resolution will be considered an NFIB Key Vote for the 118th Congress.**

In a recent NFIB member ballot, 96% of NFIB members believe that the federal government should not restrict the purchase of consumer products like gas furnaces.¹ This DOE rule would allow the government to pick winners and losers of consumer products, and not consumers. This regulation is one of the many burdensome regulations flowing out of Washington. According to one estimate, the Biden Administration has imposed almost \$1.6 trillion in new regulatory costs and nearly 290 million new paperwork hours.²

These burdensome regulations will increase red tape and costs for small businesses and consumers. DOE acknowledges this reality when it estimated the rule will increase costs for consumers over 30 years by up to \$4 billion.³ However, DOE completely misrepresents the costs to small businesses, stating the rule would only impact four small domestic original equipment manufacturers (OEMs).⁴ Small businesses understand DOE's onerous regulation will have a larger economic impact than the agency projects. NFIB has significant concerns that this rule will increase the input costs of small business owners and increase inflationary pressures which small business owners cite as their number one problem.⁵

On behalf of NFIB's roughly 300,000 small businesses across the country, thank you for your leadership to repeal DOE's burdensome rule and reduce red tape for small

¹ 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%).

² Dan Goldbeck, *The Spring Surge Continues*, American Action Forum, May 13, 2024, <https://www.americanactionforum.org/week-in-regulation/the-spring-surge-resumes/>.

³ *Id.*

⁴ <https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-09/consumer-furnace-fr.pdf>

⁵ Holly Wade, *NFIB Small Business Economic Trends*, May 14, 2024, <https://www.nfib.com/content/press-release/economy/inflation-continues-to-hinder-small-business-operations/>

businesses. NFIB strongly supports S.J.Res. 58, and it will be considered an NFIB Key Vote for the 118th Congress.

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