



March 13, 2017

Dear Representative:

To get the small business economy moving again, Congress must focus on two key obstacles currently holding back small business economic growth – repealing and replacing Obamacare and reforming the tax code to provide small business rate parity. The House of Representatives can take a significant first step toward removing these obstacles by passing the *American Health Care Act* and ending the Obamacare taxes and mandate penalties on small business.

NFIB's monthly Small Business Economic Trends survey has shown huge increases in optimism for the small business economy since the November elections. The reading has been at its highest level since before the recession, but those readings currently represent hope and optimism, not real growth and hiring. To translate the optimism of small business owners into growth and job creation, Congress must end the stifling taxes and mandate penalties of Obamacare. It is important to understand that repealing Obamacare's taxes must go hand-in-hand with tax reform, specifically parity in tax rates for small businesses versus large corporations.

The *American Health Care Act* is a necessary step to providing important health care relief for small business. While the bill does not sufficiently address all the reforms that must occur, we fully understand that many small business health care priorities must wait until after the reconciliation process is complete. NFIB looks forward to working with Congress and the Administration to provide more health insurance choices and reducing health insurance costs for small businesses. It is imperative that Congress first pass the *American Health Care Act*.

Small business has long supported repealing and replacing Obamacare. NFIB opposed the bill when it passed, and challenged the law's constitutionality before the Supreme Court in *NFIB v. Sebelius*. Small businesses want an economic environment where they can grow and hire again, and that process must start with ending the Obamacare taxes and mandate penalties. **Passage of the *American Health Care Act* will be considered an NFIB Key Vote for the 115th Congress.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Juanita D. Duggan". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Juanita D. Duggan
President & CEO
NFIB