



TO: MEMBERS OF THE OHIO SENATE

- On behalf of the 22,000 members of the Ohio chapter of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), you are respectfully urged to **VOTE YES on Substitute House Bill 2 (Cross & Lepore-Hagan)**.
- NFIB members have ranked “inability to fill open positions/need for skilled workers” as their biggest impediment to success. For small business owners, the cost of training can be significant.
- Substitute House Bill 2 (HB 2) aims to help encourage employers to upskill their workforce by providing reimbursement for training toward industry recognized credentials. The credentials must be completed within one year thus allowing employers to quickly meet the everchanging needs of their businesses.
- The TechCred program aims to be streamlined and efficient so employers are not lost in a bureaucratic morass of paperwork. This is important as many small business owners forego attempting to access existing programs as the requirements for participation can be too cumbersome and time consuming.
- The newly established TechCred program importantly tiers funding so smaller employers are ensured access to reimbursement. For many small businesses available workforce dollars are quickly consumed by larger entities. Providing a predetermined amount for employers with 50 or fewer (a typical NFIB member company), the state is assuring the smallest businesses can receive reimbursement for training and remain competitive with their larger competitors.
- NFIB may consider the vote on Substitute House Bill 2 a **Key Small Business Vote** of the 133rd General Assembly.

On behalf of Ohio's small-business community, NFIB respectfully urges you to VOTE YES on Substitute House Bill 2.