



TO: MEMBERS OF THE OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- On behalf of the nearly 22,000 members of the Ohio chapter of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), you are respectfully urged to **VOTE YES on SUBTITUTE HOUSE BILL 251** (Lang & Hillyer).
- House Bill 251 reduces Ohio's statute of limitations (SOL) on written contracts from 8 years to 6 years, bringing Ohio more in line with the national average. House Bill 251 also reduces contracts not in writing from 6 years to 4 years. House Bill 251 builds upon Ohio's progress from several years ago in reducing our statute of limitations from 15 years to the current 8. We believe this is the next logical step in ensuring Ohio is not an outlier by having a longer SOL.
- Today, a business owner must maintain documents and records pertaining to a written contract for eight years which incurs a very real expense. With the increase in technology and more sophisticated monitoring of contractual relationships, there is no reason to maintain these records for such a long duration. Furthermore, reducing the SOL will allow a business owner to take on new projects with the certainty that a previous contract is not hanging over the business owner.
- Passage of House Bill 251 will make Ohio more business friendly. Ohio will be more competitive as we move our SOL on written contracts closer to, or equal to states we frequently are measured against. Although NFIB supported the bill in its original form, reducing the SOL to 3 years, House Bill 251 keeps Ohio moving in the right direction as a state to maintain and locate a business.
- NFIB may consider the vote on Substitute House Bill 251 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 SUBTITUTE HOUSE BILL 251.