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September 3, 2025

The Honorable Julie Fedorchak
U.S. House of Representatives
302 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Fedorchak:

On behalf of NFIB, the nation's leading small business advocacy organization, I write in support of H.J. Res. 105, which would repeal a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) rule that significantly restricted access to American energy sources on more than 4 million acres of land in North Dakota. This BLM rule blocked access to 99% of coal deposits and 44% of federally owned oil and gas resources in the state. Repealing this BLM rule is an important step in lowering energy costs for small business owners not just in North Dakota, but across the whole country.

NFIB represents approximately 300,000 small and independent American businesses. In NFIB's most recent *Problems and Priorities* survey, small businesses ranked the cost of natural gas, propane, gasoline, diesel, and fuel oil as their 6th most pressing issue. Electricity costs also ranked 10th overall.¹ Job creators depend on affordable, reliable, American energy so they can own, operate, and grow their small businesses.

In a recent NFIB member ballot, 88% of NFIB members agreed that Congress should "streamline regulations to facilitate the production and transport of oil, natural gas, and other energy sources in the United States."² Repealing this burdensome BLM rule would do just that, overturning restrictions on American energy produced in North Dakota.

Nearly a quarter of crude oil output comes from federal lands and waters.³ However, through last second bureaucratic restrictions like this BLM rule, the Biden administration sought to tie the hands of US energy producers on their way out of office.

NFIB supports repealing this burdensome rule and other rules that increase production costs and make energy less affordable and reliable for small businesses. We look forward to working with you to advance this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis A. Bertolotti", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Louis A. Bertolotti
Principal, Federal Government Relations
NFIB

¹ Holly Wade & Madeline Oldstone, Small Business Problems & Priorities, NFIB Research Center, July 2024. <http://bit.ly/40uXas5>.

² NFIB Member Ballot, Mandate, vol. 582., March 2023, *Should Congress streamline regulations to facilitate the production and transport of oil, natural gas, and other energy sources in the United States?* (Yes: 88% No: 6% Undecided: 6%)

³ "Exploration & Production," American Petroleum Institute. September 2020.