



600 South Second Street, Suite 403
Springfield, IL 62704

To: Governor JB Pritzker

Date: December 5, 2025

Subject: Please Veto SB 25 and its Price-Raising Mandates

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) is the largest small-business advocacy organization in Illinois and the nation, representing over 10,000 small-business owners in Illinois alone. NFIB member businesses are independently owned and reflect the diversity of Illinois' small-business community, including small businesses in retail, construction, transportation, hospitality, professional services, manufacturing, and agriculture.

Rising electricity prices are hurting Main Street businesses. This summer's acceleration of a multi-year trend of higher electricity rates in Illinois has hit small-business owners particularly hard. These higher prices are forcing small-business owners to raise prices, delay investments, and cut staff, services, and hours.

SB 25 contains provisions that are problematic from a small business perspective and could further exacerbate already high prices. These provisions include:

1. **Substantial expansions of project labor agreement (PLA) mandates,**
 - a. **decreasing competition and raising costs.** SB 25 applies PLA mandates to battery storage projects, geothermal projects, and additional community solar projects. PLA mandates create undue burdens for small, merit-shop contractors seeking to compete for energy projects, effectively decreasing the number of contractors available to bid for projects and resulting in higher building and development costs.
 - b. **discriminating against non-union contractors and workers.** PLA mandates effectively limit contracts to union contractors and workers, boxing out non-union, merit contractors and their workers. All contractors—union or merit—should have the opportunity to compete fairly for energy projects.
2. **Significant subsidies paid for by Illinois ratepayers.** SB 25 extends ratepayer subsidies to battery storage projects and energy efficiency programs with no long-term guarantee of price savings for small-business ratepayers.

Small businesses operate on thin margins and lack the deep pockets of global corporations, making this a critical issue. Main Street businesses cannot afford ever-increasing energy costs driven by anti-competitive policies and industry subsidies.

Please veto SB 25.

Thank you for your support of Illinois' small-business community.