



CONNECTICUT

TESTIMONY OF
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS
BY
ANDY MARKOWSKI, CONNECTICUT STATE DIRECTOR
OPPOSING
SB-918, AA REQUIRING THE LICENSING OF PRIVATE SOLID WASTE HAULERS
BEFORE THE
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
MARCH 16, 2009

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), Connecticut's and the nation's leading small-business advocacy association, respectfully submits the following comments opposing SB-918, An Act Requiring The Licensing of Private Solid Waste Haulers:

SB-918 would create onerous burdens, additional costs and unnecessary regulations upon an already overregulated industry. At a time when the state budget is facing record deficits, the last thing lawmakers need to focus on is creating a new, complex regulatory scheme which would impact Connecticut's already suffering small business community.

For some time, small businesses have been recognized as the engines of growth for the state's economy. Unfortunately, the proposed legislation would undermine these efforts by adversely affecting small-business owners in the waste hauling industry. Additionally, the effects of this legislation would be felt by all businesses throughout the state. Increases in regulations, requirements and overall costs of doing business for members of the waste hauling industry will have a trickle-down effect that will negatively impact the bottom line of all businesses, large and small, and ultimately all consumers and citizens throughout Connecticut. Small, private waste haulers are able to stay in business because they are supported by other small businesses in their community, and vice-versa.

Additionally, NFIB believes this measure is unnecessary. The tools to investigate, regulate, and enforce laws for the waste hauling industry already exist in the form of various civil and criminal state and federal statutes and regulations. Furthermore, the long-term regulatory effects and fiscal impact of this legislation could actually reduce competition within the waste hauling industry and squeeze out many small businesses.