



The Voice of Small Business®

CONNECTICUT

**TESTIMONY OF
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS
BY
ANDY MARKOWSKI, CONNECTICUT STATE DIRECTOR
SUPPORTING
HB-6546, AAC EMPLOYMENT IMPACT STATEMENTS FOR THE BUDGET, BUDGET
IMPLEMENTER AND BUDGET RECONCILIATION BILLS
BEFORE THE
LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE
MARCH 3, 2009**

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), Connecticut's and the nation's leading small-business advocacy association, respectfully submits the following comments supporting HB-6546, An Act Concerning Employment Impact Statements For The Budget, Budget Implementer And Budget Reconciliation Bills:

Small business supports this measure which will help the legislature determine the impact of state budgetary decisions on employment in Connecticut. Unfortunately, Connecticut has witnessed a record number of job losses and businesses closing their doors. While this can be attributed to a variety of economic woes, certainly the state budgetary process and its resulting revenue and spending measures have a direct correlation to these declines. Small businesses also point to high health insurance, energy, workers' comp, unemployment comp costs as well as tax policies as issues that make it more costly and burdensome to do business in Connecticut.

This bill will help shine a spotlight on Connecticut's budgetary process and result in a better understanding and full analysis of the impact tax policy and state spending will have on employment in Connecticut, and thus small business, our state's primary job-creators. We are encouraged by bills such as HB-6546 which will allow lawmakers and public officials to take steps to improve our competitiveness and reject measures that will make it more costly to do business and harm our economy. Too often, laws and regulations are passed without regard for their impact on Connecticut's business climate and workers. NFIB urges support for this measure.