



The Voice of Small Business®

## CONNECTICUT

TESTIMONY OF  
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS  
BY  
ANDY MARKOWSKI, CONNECTICUT STATE DIRECTOR

### SUPPORTING

**SB-50, AAC THE COMPETITIVENESS OF CONNECTICUT AS A PLACE TO DO BUSINESS;  
SB-582, AAC A STRONGER ECONOMY AND A BETTER BUSINESS CLIMATE;  
SB-968, AAC AN EXPANSION OF THE JOB CREATION TAX CREDIT**

**BEFORE THE  
COMMERCE COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 24, 2009**

*Chairman LeBeau, Chairman Berger, Members of the Commerce Committee - The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), Connecticut's and the nation's leading small-business advocacy association, respectfully submits the following comments supporting the aforementioned bills:*

Creating a new category of businesses eligible for the job creation tax credit would help promote the creation of new jobs by small businesses. For many small businesses, the availability of this tax credit could be a deciding factor in whether to expand and hire new employees. In the current time of economic uncertainty, enactment of this important tax incentive will make our state business climate more competitive with surrounding states and encourage our small-business community to invest and expand here in Connecticut.

Additionally, NFIB feels that the time for including "job impact statements" on legislation is long overdue. Lawmakers must have every piece of information available to them so that they can fully understand and appreciate the economic impact legislation will have before they vote on it and before it becomes law. Much like lawmakers currently rely on OFA Fiscal Notes for the state and municipal impact, a private sector analysis should also be considered as well.

Finally, NFIB supports the idea of a summary report on the competitiveness of Connecticut as a place to do business. It is important for the entire legislature and the public to know how the programs and policies of state government affect the economy and business environment, steps taken by other states to improve their business climate and competitiveness, etc.

Enactment of these important measures would be a crucial step towards supporting Connecticut's small-business owners and their workers. NFIB urges passage of these bills.