



555 12<sup>th</sup> St NW, Suite 1001  
Washington, D.C. 20004

1-800-552-5342  
NFIB.com

March 28, 2023

The Honorable Steve Scalise  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2049 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader Scalise,

On behalf of NFIB, the nation's leading small business advocacy association, I write in support of H.R. 1, the *Lower Energy Costs Act*. This legislation would increase energy production and streamline the permitting process for energy-related projects.

NFIB members continue to rank inflation as the top small business problem.<sup>1</sup> In a recent NFIB survey, 79% of small employers reported that rising fuel prices (gasoline, diesel, fuel oil, etc.) are a substantial contributor to higher costs.<sup>2</sup> Nearly all (96%) of small employers reported higher gas and fuel prices have some degree of a negative impact on their business.<sup>3</sup>

Small businesses are desperate for relief. H.R. 1 will help small businesses by increasing energy production, decreasing energy costs, and reducing regulatory burdens that harm economic growth. NFIB members overwhelmingly agree with these outcomes. In a recent NFIB member ballot, more than 88% of small business owners support streamlining regulations to facilitate the production and transport of oil, natural gas, and other energy sources in the United States.

NFIB thanks you for introducing this important legislation to increase energy production and decrease energy costs for Americans. NFIB strongly encourages Representatives to support H.R. 1, the *Lower Energy Costs Act*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Kuhlman". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kevin Kuhlman  
Vice President, Federal Government Relations  
NFIB

---

<sup>1</sup> William C. Dunkelberg and Holly Wade, *Small Business Economic Trends Survey*, NFIB Research Center, March 14, 2023, <https://strgnfibcom.blob.core.windows.net/nfibcom/SBET-Feb-2023-1.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> *Small Business and Inflation*, NFIB Research Center, July 19, 2022, <https://assets.nfib.com/nfibcom/NFIB-Inflation-Survey-Questionnaire-June-July-2022.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*