



## TO: MEMBERS OF THE OHIO SENATE

- On behalf of the 21,000 members of the Ohio chapter of the National Federation of Independent Business in Ohio (NFIB), you are respectfully urged to **VOTE YES on Substitute Senate Bill 9 (McColley & Roegner)**.
- NFIB members have ranked unreasonable government regulations as a significant impediment to success. For small business owners, the cost of compliance is twenty percent greater than larger companies. Any action that can be taken to help reduce this cost of doing business results in resources that will be put toward company growth and expansion. According to a study, Ohio has the 4<sup>th</sup> most regulations of the more than 40 states evaluated.
- Senate Bill 9 (SB 9) extends the prohibition, included in the last operating budget, on adding new regulatory restrictions without removing two, through June 30, 2025, and further requires state agencies to reduce regulatory restrictions 30 percent by that same date. Importantly, SB 9 provides a mechanism to allow state agencies to appear before JCARR and explain why the regulatory restrictive rules reduction threshold cannot be met.
- Under Senate Bill 9, state agencies will have clear criteria on how to evaluate whether an existing rule up for review would be removed under the reduction provisions of the bill. We feel this process will create an even more robust evaluation of rules by changing the way regulators view the need for ongoing or additional regulatory restrictions, raising further awareness of the potential impact on the regulated communities.
- SB 9 also requires the establishment of the "Cut Red Tape" website which will allow our members, the regulated community, the opportunity to both request information about and communicate to JCARR about regulatory restrictions. These important transparency provisions will foster better dialogue and understanding between regulators and the business community.
- We recognize the need to have in place rules and regulations providing for the health, safety, and welfare of all Ohioans. We all want clean air and water as well as safe workplaces and appropriate consumer protections. However, there is a balance necessary to ensure our small businesses are not faced with undue regulatory burdens. We believe Senate Bill 9 will foster a positive evaluation of Ohio's regulatory scheme and hopefully reduce obstacles to our members' operations.
- NFIB may consider the vote on Substitute Senate Bill 9 a **Key Small Business Vote** of the 134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

**On behalf of Ohio's small-business community, NFIB respectfully urges you to VOTE YES on Substitute Senate Bill 9 (McColley & Roegner).**