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September XX, 2020

Name
Business
Address
City, WA Zip Code

Dear First:

I am writing to ask you to join me, and your fellow NFIB members, in thanking state **Sen. Mark Mullet** for his leadership and bipartisan approach on several of our key legislative priorities.

As one of the only small-business owners in the Senate Democratic Caucus, Sen. Mullet is our chief advocate with his party on the issues most important to employers and entrepreneurs.

Sen. Mullet (D-Issaquah) and Sen. Lynda Wilson (R-Vancouver) were the lead bipartisan **co-sponsors of NFIB's Small Business Bill of Rights legislation** in the state senate.

They worked together, guiding our legislation through the Senate Financial Institutions, Economic Development & Trade Committee, which Mullet chairs. He helped secure a \$110,000 appropriation to support negotiations with the Governor's office and cabinet agencies to develop language to satisfy agency concerns, while preserving the key elements of our bill. Mullet then worked with the Majority Floor Leader to bring the bill before the full Senate, **resulting in a unanimous vote of approval.**

Sen. Mullet also **reached out to House Democrats** to dislodge our bill when it stalled in committee, **securing a favorable vote** from that panel. The bill was eligible for a House vote, but failed to reach the floor before this year's deadline.

Thanks to Sen. Mullet's hard work, our bill is poised for success next year.

In addition, Sen. Mullet has **worked directly with NFIB on amendments to other bills** of interest to small-business owners. For example, he rewrote his Small Business Retirement Marketplace legislation to make participation completely voluntary. He included several NFIB amendments in his Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program bill, exempting employers with five or fewer workers and ensuring all workers would have the ability to opt-out if they so choose.

Sen. Mullet also stood with NFIB **opposing the graduated real-estate excise tax**, that shifts the tax

burden from homeowners to commercial and industrial property owners and tenants. He has **blocked capital gains and income tax proposals** from Senate votes, and **said no to property tax hikes**.

Sen. Mark Mullet even **voted against** his own party's 2019 operating **budget** that was **funded with nearly \$1 billion dollars in new and higher taxes on businesses** – the only member of the Senate Democratic Caucus to do so.

Similarly, he was the only Senate Democratic Caucus member to **oppose a payroll tax** to fund a new long-term care benefit. This new entitlement program was the top priority of Rep. Laurie Jinkins, who has since been named Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sen. Mullet has also endured the scorn of Gov. Jay Inslee for being among five Senate Democrats who have **stalled Inslee's carbon tax, cap-and-trade, and low carbon fuel standard** proposals, all of which NFIB strongly opposes.

For his consistent leadership, bipartisan approach, and willingness to work with NFIB on our most important legislative concerns, we are pleased to call Sen. Mark Mullet a good friend of small business in the Washington State Legislature.

I hope you will **join me in thanking Sen. Mullet** for his efforts **with a quick call or email**. He can be reached at (425) 270-8812 or by email to Mark.Mullet@leg.wa.gov.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick L. Connor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patrick Connor
NFIB Washington State Director