



The Honorable Derek Merrin
Chair, Ohio House Ways & Means Committee
77 South High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Merrin,

I am submitting written testimony on behalf of our nearly 21,000 governing members to lend support for Senate Bill 18. Senate Bill 18 is nearly identical to House Bill 48 which was heard by this committee last week with the exception of an amendment discussed below. We appreciate the attention given to this important legislation.

NFIB supports Senate Bill 18 to ensure Ohio's tax law conforms to changes in federal tax law since March 27, 2020. The COVID pandemic has caused a substantial financial impact on so many small businesses. Senate Bill 18 will provide the certainty and benefit of federal tax law changes made in response to the pandemic including the deductibility of federal paycheck protection program (PPP) loans.

Additionally, Senate Bill 18 contains an amendment that will exclude Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) premiums from the commercial activity tax (CAT). This issue was raised during testimony last week. We support this amendment and are grateful to the Ohio Department of Taxation, Governor DeWine's office, and BWC for working on language. This important amendment will keep resources in our members' small businesses.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate Bill 18. We respectfully request the committee move expeditiously to pass this bill and provide taxpayers with certainty during the current tax filing season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher J. Ferruso". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christopher J. Ferruso
Ohio Legislative Director