



The Voice of Small Business®

ALASKA

March 8, 2011

The Honorable Paul Seaton
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: House Bill 57

Dear Representative Seaton,

On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business/Alaska, I wish to respectfully share our opposition to House Bill 57. The National Federation of Independent Business is the largest small-business advocacy group in Alaska.

We appreciate your concern for encouraging the safe use of bicycles in Alaska. However, this bill establishes a grant program to compete with small businesses throughout Alaska. Making state funds available to municipalities and nonprofit agencies to acquire merchandise to directly compete with small businesses in Alaska is not an appropriate function of government.

Providing safety education and training is an important activity. However, creating unfair competition by subsidizing government and nonprofit agencies is detrimental to many small Alaskan businesses that provide jobs and services in our communities.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis L. DeWitt", is written over a white background.

Dennis L. DeWitt
Alaska State Director

Cc: NFIB/AK Leadership Council
House Transportation Committee