



The Voice of Small Business®

ALASKA

January 18, 2013

The Honorable Sean Parnell
Governor of Alaska
Third Floor
State Capitol Building
PO Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

RE: House Bill 76

Dear Governor Parnell,

On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business/Alaska, I wish to respectfully share our support for House Bill 76. The National Federation of Independent Business is the largest small-business advocacy group in Alaska.

House Bill 76 addresses the unemployment trust fund account so that it will meet federal compliance requirements, ensure that the unemployment insurance (UI) fund remains solvent, and minimize the burden for employers and employees.

House Bill 76 revises the contribution requirements to keep the trust fund solvent and allows the commissioner the authority to eliminate or reduce increases in unemployment insurance tax rates when the fund is fully funded, based on standards to ensure the actuarial soundness of the unemployment trust fund. It also permits electronic filing of information in an effort to reduce cost and improve accuracy of data received from employers.

These changes recognize the need to implement federal requirements addressing payment errors, revise the requirements that have lead to overfunding the UI Trust Fund, and improve the operations of the system.

We applaud you for putting forth this legislation that will help home-grown small businesses in real ways.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dennis L. DeWitt", is written over a faint, larger signature.

Dennis L. DeWitt
Alaska State Director

Cc: NFIB/AK Leadership Council
Representative Kurt Olson, Chair, House Labor & Commerce Committee