



The Voice of Small Business®

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ALASKA

February 17, 2010

The Honorable Kurt Olson
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: Houser Bill 303

Dear Representative Olson:

On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business/Alaska, I wish to respectfully share our support for House Bill 303. The National Federation of Independent Business is the largest small-business advocacy group in Alaska.

The cost of energy is a critical issue to the many small businesses in Alaska as it has a direct impact on the profitability of the business. Thus, building energy efficient business structures is in the interest of small business owners.

The Small Business Energy Rebate Fund and Program, proposed in House Bill 303, would allow small business owners wishing to make energy efficiency improvements on their businesses to receive a rebate for some of their expenditures. The program requires an energy rater to evaluate the business structure before and after the improvements. Rebates would then be dependent on the relative amount of efficiency gained and receipts from eligible improvements chosen by the business owner from the energy rating's improvement options list.

This approach will assist many Alaskan small business owners improve their operational efficiency by reducing the use of energy and lower the cost of operations.

We appreciate your concern with the viability of many of Alaska's small businesses.

Sincerely yours,

Dennis L. DeWitt
Alaska State Director

Cc: NFIB/AK Leadership Council
House Energy Committee