

NFIB

The Voice of Small Business®

ALASKA

January 19, 2010

The Honorable Mike Kelly
Room 513
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Kelly

RE: HJR 35

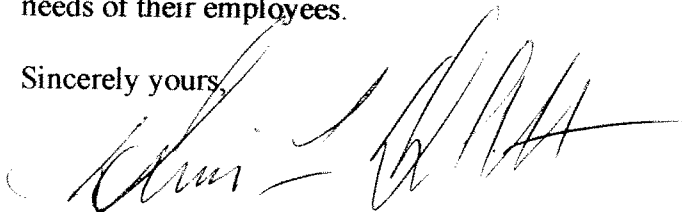
On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business/Alaska, I wish to express our support for House Joint Resolution 35. The National Federation of Independent Business/Alaska is the largest small-business advocacy group in our state.

HJR 35 provides for placing an amendment to Alaska's Constitution before voters during the next general election making explicit the individual right to health care free choice. The constitutional amendment would prohibit passage of laws that compel any person or employer to participate in a particular health care system. The proposed constitutional change will also permit the purchase of private insurance and allow Alaskans to pay their own health care provider directly.

NFIB/AK is critically concerned about the cost and access to health care for Alaskans. The current versions of health care reform that have passed the U.S. House and U.S. will not address those issues. The mandates they include clearly impose unreasonable burdens on Alaskans and Alaskan businesses. These mandates cannot address the needs of Alaskans.

This proposal will protect Alaskans from the unconstitutional federal mandates to purchase health insurance that may not meet their needs. It will protect small businesses from being taxed for not providing health insurance designed by the federal government that may not meet the needs of their employees.

Sincerely yours,



Dennis L. DeWitt
Alaska State Director

Cc: NFIB/AK Leadership Council