



The Voice of Small Business®

ALASKA

March 22, 2013

The Honorable Bill Stoltze  
State Capitol Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: House Joint Resolution 14, Delay Implementing the Affordable Care Act

Dear Representative Stoltze:

On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business/Alaska, I wish to respectfully share our support for House Joint Resolution 14. The National Federation of Independent Business is the largest small-business advocacy group in Alaska.

Small businesses in Alaska may or may not be required to provide health coverage mandated by the Affordable Care Act, but if they currently provide employees health insurance, the effect on their premiums can still be staggering. A 40% to 50% increase in premiums is not unexpected. The types of coverage many small businesses can afford are becoming unavailable.

With the huge increase in premiums employers are forced to consider what other expenses they must curtail. Among the unfortunate choices are increasing the percentage of employee cost share, reducing the number of employees, or eliminating employer based health Insurance. While these are not the preference of employers, economics cannot be ignored.

Your willingness to raise the concerns listed in HJR 14 will be greatly appreciated by small businesses in Alaska and their employees. While this may not solve all the problems caused by the Affordable Care Act, joining others in raising the problems it causes may bring attention to the needed relief. As the issues of concern are raised to the national discussion, there is hope of some relief.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Dennis L. DeWitt", is written over a horizontal line.

Dennis L. DeWitt  
Alaska State Director

Cc: NFIB/AK Leadership Council  
House Health & Social Services Committee