

HB

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30</SUBJECT><COMM>HL&C30</COMM></TARGET>

NFIB

The Voice of Small Business.®

ALASKA

February 26, 2015

The Honorable Geran Tarr
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: House Bill 30

Dear Representative Tarr:

On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business/Alaska, I wish to respectfully express our opposition to House Bill 30 relating to mandatory sick leave. The National Federation of Independent Business is the largest small-business advocacy group in Alaska.

House Bill 30 mandates a new employee benefit on employers without consideration of the cost to the employer. It interjects the state into an area of employee benefits that should be left to the employment arrangements between employers and employees. By mandating this policy on employers, you limit the ability of an employer to structure a benefit package to fit the unique needs of its employees.

The proposal discriminates against private, nonunion employers by exempting government employers and employers who may have collective bargaining agreements, who are not required to provide this mandated benefit.

The current economic situation is having a strong negative impact on many small employers. Additional government mandates would only add an explosive increase to their costs and put jobs of many Alaskans at risk.

Along with our general opposition to unfunded government mandates on employers, we would strongly suggest that this is not the time to add cost to businesses in Alaska. This is a time to assure that employers are able to stay in business and continue to employ Alaskans.

Sincerely yours,



Dennis L. DeWitt
Alaska State Director

Cc: NFIB/AK Leadership Council
House Labor & Commerce Committee