



May 20, 2020

Senator Nathan Manning
Chair, Ohio Senate Local Government, Public Safety & Veterans Affairs Committee
1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Manning:

I am writing on behalf of the nearly 22,000 governing members of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) in Ohio to provide our support for House Bill 242. We commend Representatives Lang and Jones for introducing House Bill 242, legislation prohibiting local governments from imposing a fee, tax, assessment, or another charge on auxiliary containers. Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments. These comments were provided to this committee on similar legislation, Senate Bill 222, in November of 2019.

By way of background, a typical NFIB member employs 20 or fewer and has less than \$2 million in annual sales. Our members come from all industries, and we look like any Main Street in your legislative districts.

Regulations and regulatory reform continue to be a pressing issue for small business owners. In fact, in the NFIB Research Foundation's quadrennial publication *Problems and Priorities*, unreasonable government regulations is the number two concern both in Ohio and nationally. This survey of small business owners poses 75 different business issues our members may encounter in their operations. They are asked to rank the biggest problem or impediment facing their respective businesses.¹

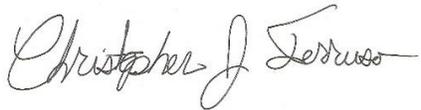
House Bill 242 proactively addresses the huge challenge our members face in trying to maneuver through a patchwork of local laws differing from one jurisdiction to the next. According to the Small Business Administration, it costs small businesses 36 percent more to comply with regulations than their larger counterparts.² Additionally, House Bill 242 protects businesses selling goods to consumers in containers from having to navigate a potential administrative morass serving as the collector and remitter of taxes on said containers.

¹ <https://www.nfib.com/assets/NFIB-Problems-and-Priorities-2016.pdf>

² [https://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/The%20Impact%20of%20Regulatory%20Costs%20on%20Small%20Firms%20\(Full\).pdf](https://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/The%20Impact%20of%20Regulatory%20Costs%20on%20Small%20Firms%20(Full).pdf)

Just recently we have seen action taken by both the City of Bexley and Cuyahoga County Council to enact such bans. We support House Bill 242 and the creation of a uniform, statewide standard for regulating auxiliary containers providing certainty to both businesses and consumers alike. Although a uniform standard is our focus concerning House Bill 242, I want to be clear, NFIB does not support any additional taxes on auxiliary containers.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher J. Ferruso". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Christopher J. Ferruso
Legislative Director