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**HOUSE BILL 625 – AUXILIARY CONTAINER REGULATIONS
WRITTEN PROPONENT TESTIMONY
OHIO HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE
JUNE 19, 2018**

Chairman Young, Vice-Chair Riedel, Ranking-Member Lapore-Hagan and members of the Ohio House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee, on behalf of the nearly 23,000 governing members of NFIB in Ohio, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of House Bill 625, legislation prohibiting local governments from imposing a fee, tax, assessment or other charge on auxiliary containers.

By way of background, a typical NFIB/Ohio 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 625 will proactively address a huge challenge our members face: trying to navigate patchworks of local laws that may differ 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 625 will protect businesses selling goods to consumers in containers from having to navigate a potential administrative morass serving as the collector and remitter of taxes on containers.

While no law has yet been passed by any local government in Ohio, other local governments around the country have done so. We support House Bill 625 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 with respect to House Bill 625, NFIB does not support any additional taxes on auxiliary containers.

Thank you for your consideration,

Christopher J. Ferruso
Legislative Director

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)