



**Senate Finance and Taxation Committee**

**03/24/25**

**Testimony in Opposition of House Bill No. 1382**

**Presented by Alison Ritter on behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)**

Chairman Weber and members of the Senate Finance and Tax committee,

My name is Alison Ritter. I'm here today on behalf of NFIB, a nonprofit, nonpartisan, member-driven organization that advocates for the nearly 2,000 small and independent business owners in North Dakota.

A survey of our membership found 74% of our members overwhelmingly oppose an increase in motor fuels tax. Small business owners look to the legislature for policies that lower the cost of doing business, not raising them. Increasing the gas tax, increases the cost of doing business, whether for deliveries, service calls, or commuting employees.

Any time there are added costs to doing business, small business owners must consider raising prices, cutting jobs, or reducing growth opportunities—hurting both businesses and local economies. With 73% of NFIB members in agreement, it's clear that small businesses can't afford another financial burden, especially in an already challenging economy. We need policies that support, not hinder, small business success.

On behalf of NFIB, I'm asking for a do not pass on House Bill 1382.

Thank you.