



## Testimony in Support of HB2023

Mr. Daniel Murray: Kansas State Director, National Federation of Independent Business  
Senate Commerce Committee

*Wednesday* Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Good morning Chairwoman Lynn and members of the Committee. I am pleased to be here on behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB). The NFIB is the state's leading small business advocacy organization representing the consensus views of our nearly 4,000 small business owners across Kansas.

**NFIB supports HB2023**, which would prohibit public sector employee unions from spending any of their income derived from periodic payments, including dues, on political activities. Small business owners overwhelmingly support measures, known as "paycheck protection" laws, which limit or preclude governments from collecting public sector union dues, particularly those portions that are used for political purposes.

**In fact, in a recent ballot of our small business members in Kansas, well over 90% of those who responded believed that restrictions should be placed on the collection of public union dues for political activity.** The intense support by small business for reforms like the one proposed in HB2023 stems from their belief that government should not be in the business of collecting political contributions.

In spite of what you have may heard from the bill's opponents, let me be clear that HB2023 does **NOT** do any of the following:

- Remove the right of public employees to contribute to any PAC of their choosing;
- Remove the right of public employees to independently establish auto-deductions for contributions to PACs;
- Restrict the constitutional right of public employees to free speech

In no way would HB2023 silence unions or deny a worker the opportunity to join their union and/or contribute to union political causes. Public sector unions would continue to have the ability to solicit and collect dues and contributions. NFIB always welcomes organized labor to the free market of ideas.

**We urge you to support HB2023 which would keep government from serving as a collection agent for union political contributions.**