

February 13, 2018

## Dear Representative:

On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), the nation's leading small business advocacy organization, I write in support of H.R. 620, the *ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017*. This legislation provides small business owners time to remedy alleged Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) violations before being forced into a settlement or a legal challenge. **H.R. 620 will be considered an NFIB Key Vote for the 115**<sup>th</sup> **Congress.** 

The ADA was enacted to provide access to public accommodations, but too often it has been abused. Litigants file thousands of lawsuits against small business owners by taking advantage of the ambiguity in the "readily achievable" standard. Unable to afford expensive litigation, small businesses are more likely to settle with plaintiffs' attorneys for minor alleged violations that do not impede access. Therefore, small businesses pay a disproportionately high price for the complexity of ADA regulations.

H.R. 620 helps small business owners ensure compliance by allowing a reasonable period to address alleged violations before litigation. In a recent NFIB member ballot, 93 percent of small business owners support such a notice and cure period.

NFIB strongly supports passage of H.R. 620 and will consider it an NFIB Key Vote for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress. We look forward to working with you to protect small business as the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress moves forward.

Sincerely,

Juanita D. Duggan President & CEO

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**NFIB**