



June 26, 2019

The Honorable Mike DeWine
 Governor, State of Ohio
 77 South High Street, 30th Floor
 Columbus, OH 43215

The Honorable Larry Householder
 Speaker, Ohio House of Representatives
 77 South High Street, 14th Floor
 Columbus, OH 43215

The Honorable Larry Obhof
 President, Ohio Senate
 1 Capitol Square, 2nd Floor
 Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Governor DeWine, Speaker Householder, and President Obhof,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and the hundreds of thousands of business owners and their employees we represent, we are respectfully requesting your support of the Ohio Senate changes to the business investor deduction (BID) in House Bill 166, the state's operating budget, as unanimously passed by the Ohio Senate. The Senate was able to fund the priorities of Governor DeWine and the Legislature,

provide greater tax relief to all Ohioans, and preserve the BID, all while maintaining a balanced budget and avoiding a \$1 billion tax shift on Ohio's small businesses.

Ohio's unemployment rate is at an 18-year low, small business optimism is at near record levels, revenues to the state are up, and the biggest challenge facing small business owners is one indicative of a strong economy: the inability to fill open positions. Given these economic realities, it is important that our tax structure remain certain and stable. Maintaining current law would provide for that certainty and stability.

Small business owners from across the state have been vocal about the importance of the BID to their business operations. They came to Columbus to share their stories on how they are returning their tax savings to their business operations. They called, wrote, and emailed their legislators with similar messages. We hope the Conference Committee on House Bill 166 will act on Ohio's entrepreneurs' deep concerns and consider retaining the 3% flat rate on business income above \$250,000.

We urge you to keep the path of low unemployment and economic growth and encourage our small businesses to continue to invest in Ohio by continuing this important business income tax deduction.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

NFIB
Ohio Business Roundtable
Ohio Chamber of Commerce
Ohio Manufacturers' Association
Ohio Council of Retail Merchants
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation
Columbus Chamber of Commerce
Ohio Insurance Agents
Ohio Restaurant Association
Ohio Trucking Association
Ohio Realtors
Ohio Society of CPAs
National Electrical Contractors Association
Ohio Association of Movers
Ohio Tire and Automotive Association
Ohio Receivables Management Association
Ohio Propane Gas Association
Greater Cleveland Partnership
United Equipment Dealers Association
Ohio Equipment Distributors Association
Ohio Association of Convenience Stores

cc: Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted
Members of the Ohio House of Representatives (via email)
Members of the Ohio Senate (via email)