



**Testimony in Support of SB154  
Before House Commerce, Labor & Economic Development Committee**

**Mr. Daniel Murray, Kansas State Director  
National Federation of Independent Business**

**Friday, March 13, 2015**

On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB154. The NFIB is the state's leading small business advocacy organization representing the consensus views of over 4,200 small business owners across Kansas.

I am pleased to appear in support of SB154 because it will, if enacted, inject a measure of predictability, simplicity and fairness into Kansas' unemployment insurance (UI) taxation system.

The UI system is indeed an insurance system wherein risk is shared among the state's employers. Small businesses are committed to paying their fair share to sustain a viable and trustworthy fund in order to support employees that have been laid off due to no fault of their own. NFIB has concerns, however, that the current system places undue burden on positively balanced employers and often produces unpredictable fluctuations in employers' UI tax rates. The proposal in SB154 to move from an arrayed to a fixed UI system will reduce complexity and improve predictably for small businesses.

On behalf of our members, I want to thank the Legislature and the Kansas Department of Labor for adopting positive statutory and regulatory changes in recent years. The state of the UI system has never been better. However, we believe that there is always room to improve as we strive to make Kansas the best place for small businesses to own, operate and grow their business.

We urge the Committee to report SB154 favorable for passage.