



1201 F St NW #200
Washington, D.C. 20004

1-800-552-5342
NFIB.com

July 31, 2018

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC, 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso:

On behalf of NFIB, the nation's leading small business advocacy organization, thank you for holding a legislative hearing to examine the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and introducing the *Endangered Species Act Amendments of 2018* discussion draft. The ESA is overdue for reauthorization and reform. The *Endangered Species Act Amendments of 2018* discussion draft would reauthorize the ESA for the first time since 1992. This reauthorization provides a much-needed opportunity to reform the ESA.

Unreasonable regulations rank as the second largest concern to small business owners, according to NFIB's *Problems and Priorities* survey. This draft bill would add common sense reforms to the regulatory process by prioritizing resources for the recovery of species and establishing species recovery plans to ensure recovery is progressing according to schedule. Additionally, it would prioritize resources and improve transparency related to the ESA.

Thank you for introducing a discussion draft to reauthorize and reform the Endangered Species Act. We look forward to working with you to protect small business as the 115th Congress moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Juanita D. Duggan".

Juanita D. Duggan
President & CEO
NFIB