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March 10, 2026

**Senate File 1980 (Clark)**

Chair Hawj and Senate Environment Committee Members -

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) represents over 10,000 small businesses across Minnesota. Our mission is to promote and protect the rights of our members to own, operate, and grow their businesses.

NFIB has strong concerns with Senate File 1980, which would impose an assessment on producers of mattresses and box springs, as well as the retailers who sell them directly to consumers. At a time when affordability is top of mind, this proposal is essentially a regressive tax that will further contribute to the cost pressures felt by consumers.

From a small business perspective, we are concerned that small retailers will bear the brunt of consumer pushback to the prices increases that will result from this assessment. Small retailers that operate on thin margins will be unable to absorb these additional costs and will be forced to pass it on to consumers through visible price increases. When faced with more expensive products, consumers will assume that the small retailer arbitrarily increased prices, which will make it more difficult for small retailers to compete in the market.

Finally, we are also concerned that this legislation will result in additional compliance costs related to tracking the sales of mattresses and box springs, applying the assessment, and remitting the proceeds to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Since this bill does not contain any exemption for small businesses, small retailers will be subject to the same compliance costs as the big box stores, without the benefit of a large accounting or compliance department.

As such, we respectfully request that the committee oppose Senate File 1980. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Boesche', written in a cursive style.

**Jon Boesche**  
Minnesota State Director  
National Federation of Independent Business