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Before the House Committee On Finance

DATE: March 25, 2009

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 308

Re: SB 1678 SD3 Relating to Taxation Testimony of Melissa Pavlicek for NFIB Hawaii

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments regarding SB 1678 SD3 which seeks to adopt amendments to Hawaii tax laws to implement the streamlined sales and use tax agreement.

The National Federation of Independent Business is the largest advocacy organization representing small and independent businesses in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals. In Hawaii, NFIB represents more than 1,000 members. NFIB's purpose is to impact public policy at the state and federal level and be a key business resource for small and independent business in America. NFIB also provides timely information designed to help small businesses succeed.

The Tax Review Commission believes that the goal of coordinating the collection of taxes on interstate sales, such as via the Internet, is desirable. The Commission also believes that Hawaii should remain involved in discussions on the Streamlined Sales Tax Project but should not make any formal commitments at this time. According to the Streamlined Sales Tax Project website as of March 24, 2009, only twenty-two states have committed to the Project and no new states have been added to this list since January 1, 2008.