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## Testimony of

Christopher Carlozzi, State Director, National Federation of Independent Business  
In Opposition to House Bill No. 7291  
Relating to Labor and Labor Relations – Labor Relations Act  
Before the House Committee on Labor  
April 15, 2026

Chairman Corvese and Members of the House Committee on Labor:

My name is Christopher Carlozzi. I am the Rhode Island State Director of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB). A non-profit, non-partisan organization, NFIB is the nations and Rhode Island's largest small business advocacy group. In Rhode Island, NFIB represents hundreds of small and independent business owners involved in all types of industry, including manufacturing, retail, wholesale, service, and agriculture. The average NFIB member has five employees and annual gross revenues of about \$450,000. In short, NFIB represents the small Main Street business owners from across the state. On behalf of those small and independent business employers in Rhode Island, I urge you to oppose House Bill No. 7291, regarding unionization in the workplace.

This bill unfairly exposes workers to undue influence and pressures to unionize by removing the private ballot process. Additionally, this bill does not require a majority of the workplace to agree to move forward with an election, instead allowing thirty percent to constitute a majority of support.

The language in this bill also prohibits employers from discussing the impact of unionization on a small business, even if it will have an impact on the workers' jobs. This also seems duplicative, because it seems to be something the General Assembly already addressed in last year's captive audience bill.

I strongly urge you to reject House Bill No. 7291 that will have a negative impact on small businesses across Rhode Island. Thank you.