



National Federation of
Independent Business

July 9, 1990

Honorable Robert Dole
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Bob:

The intent behind the ADA bill is to provide equal access to the disabled -- a worthwhile goal. While NFIB still has serious reservations about specific provisions in the bill, we will do everything possible to insure that NFIB members know their obligations under the law. However, we are deeply concerned about efforts by Congress to exempt itself from the full requirements of the ADA bill.

Over the last few decades, Congress has enacted more than a dozen major statutes that have had a serious impact on American business. However, it has exempted itself from these same provisions.

Until Congress has to live by the rules that it makes for others, it will never fully understand their implications. It seems particularly ironic that Congress believes businesses should be subject to penalty for not providing access to disabled customers and workers, but many members of Congress do not believe that disabled citizens should have the same access to remedies from legislators. Such a double standard is simply unacceptable.

On behalf of the 500,000 members of the National Federation of Independent Business, I urge you to support Sen. Grassley's efforts to fully apply the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to Congress. Furthermore, I urge you to vote to defeat any points of order made against Congressional coverage -- any such vote will be considered a Key Small Business Vote for the 101st Congress.

Sincerely,

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Small Business