



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Shawn Shouldice (802)498-0059

## **NFIB APPLAUDS CANDIDATE'S PLAN FOR GROWING JOBS**

### *Small Businesses Encouraged by Dubie's Plan to Reduce Taxes, Regulations*

**Montpelier, August 30, 2010** - *All or part of the following may be attributed to Shawn Shouldice, who serves as the state director of the National Federation of Independent Business/Vermont, the state's leading small business organization, on the Dubie for Governor Job's Plan announced today.*

The largest association of small businesses in Vermont today said its members were highly encouraged by a plan for job growth unveiled earlier by gubernatorial candidate Brian Dubie.

"Ninety-six percent of the employers in Vermont are small business owners, and they are among the most heavily taxed and over-regulated business owners in the country," said Shawn Shouldice, state director of the National Federation of Independent Businesses/Vermont (NFIB/VT). "We depend almost entirely on a vibrant small-business sector and Brian Dubie's plan takes dead aim at some of the obstacles that we believe are discouraging growth."

Dubie, who currently serves as the state's Lt. Governor and is running to become Vermont's next governor, outlined a "blueprint for jobs plan" this morning that focused heavily on cutting taxes and eliminating regulations on small businesses. Proposing that Vermont have more disciplined spending, Dubie emphasized that the state budget should not grow more than 2% per year; which he said is what most households grow per year. This strategy will result in nearly \$240 million in taxpayer savings over the next four years.

As one the highest taxed states in the country Dubie is recommending a number of actions to ease the numerous burdens employers and employees face each day. With a plan to introduce an investment tax credit, businesses and manufacturers that reinvest in themselves to stay competitive will be eligible for a 10% tax credit against income taxes. In addition to the introducing tax credits, Dubie stressed that the Land Gains Tax should be eliminated because he views this as an impediment to development and job creation.

By simplifying regulations, making them clear and without compromising safety, Vermont businesses will have the opportunity, once again, grow and create jobs. Processes need to be streamlined in order to eliminate duplication of procedures and cutting time and expenses in order for employers to focus on growth. With modernizing the environmental permitting process, and introducing the "No Run-Around" and "Reasonable Time Guarantees", Dubie believes focus can remain on businesses while staying true to the Vermont's environmental ethic.

"Everyone agrees on the need for environmental protection and social responsibility, but the burden of paying for these must be prioritized especially in this period of economic recession," said Shouldice. "Policies that drive away small businesses end up costing jobs, investment capital and revenue for providing basic government services. The Dubie plan clearly attempts to refocus Vermont's priorities and refuel the economy."

Shouldice emphasized that her organization is non-partisan, and that its members are eager to compare the gubernatorial candidate's ideas for growing the state's economy. "We are looking forward to robust debate on the issues that concern small businesses," said Shouldice.

NFIB/VT represents more than 1,500 members across the state; the organization endorses candidates based on their voting records and responses to questions on key business-related issues. The fact that job-growth has taken center stage this early in the campaign is important to small business owners, according to Shouldice.

For more information about NFIB and the 2009-2010 NFIB/Vermont Voting Record, visit [www.NFIB.com/VT](http://www.NFIB.com/VT).

###

*NFIB is the nation's leading [small business association](http://www.NFIB.com), with offices in Washington, D.C. and all 50 state capitals. Founded in 1943 as a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, NFIB gives small and independent business owners a voice in shaping the public policy issues that affect their business. NFIB's powerful network of grassroots activists sends their views directly to state and federal lawmakers through our unique member-only ballot, thus playing a critical role in supporting America's free enterprise system. NFIB's mission is to promote and protect the right of our members to own, operate and grow their businesses. More information about NFIB is available online at [www.NFIB.com/newsroom](http://www.NFIB.com/newsroom).*