

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 264

Expressing the sense of the Senate that small business participation is vital to the defense of our Nation, and that Federal, State, and local governments should aggressively seek out and purchase innovative technologies and services from American small businesses to help in homeland defense and the fight against terrorism.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 8, 2002

Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. BOND) submitted the following resolution;
which was referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that small business participation is vital to the defense of our Nation, and that Federal, State, and local governments should aggressively seek out and purchase innovative technologies and services from American small businesses to help in homeland defense and the fight against terrorism.

Whereas on September 11, 2001, the people of the United States were subject to the worst terrorist attack in American history;

Whereas in October 2001, the Pentagon's Technical Support Working Group, which is responsible for seeking new technologies to assist the military, sent an urgent plea, seeking ideas on how to fight terrorism;

Whereas in just 2 months, over 12,500 ideas were submitted to the Technical Support Working Group, most of them from small businesses;

Whereas small businesses remain the most innovative sector of the United States economy, accounting for the vast majority of new product ideas and technological innovations; and

Whereas despite their achievements, small businesses often have difficulty marketing and supplying goods and services to Federal, State, and local governments: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

2 (1) small business participation is vital to the
3 defense of the United States and should play an ac-
4 tive role in assisting the United States military,
5 Federal intelligence and law enforcement agencies,
6 and State and local police forces to combat terrorism
7 through the design and development of innovative
8 products; and

9 (2) Federal, State, and local governments
10 should aggressively seek out and purchase innovative
11 technologies and services from, and promote re-
12 search opportunities for, American small businesses
13 to help in homeland defense and the fight against
14 terrorism.

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