

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 154

Honoring the entrepreneurial spirit of small business concerns in the United States during National Small Business Week, beginning May 17, 2009.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 19, 2009

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WICKER, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Honoring the entrepreneurial spirit of small business concerns in the United States during National Small Business Week, beginning May 17, 2009.

Whereas the approximately 27,200,000 small business concerns in the United States are the driving force behind the Nation's economy, creating more than 93 percent of all net new jobs and generating more than 50 percent of the Nation's non-farm gross domestic product;

Whereas small businesses play an integral role in rebuilding the Nation's economy;

Whereas Congress has emphasized the importance of small businesses by improving access to capital through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009;

Whereas small business concerns are the Nation’s innovators,
serving to advance technology and productivity;

Whereas small business concerns represent 97 percent of all
exporters and produce 29 percent of exported goods;

Whereas Congress established the Small Business Adminis-
tration in 1953 to aid, counsel, assist, and protect the in-
terests of small business concerns in order to preserve
free and competitive enterprise, to ensure that a fair pro-
portion of the total purchases, contracts, and sub-
contracts for property and services for the Federal Gov-
ernment are placed with small business concerns, to make
certain that a fair proportion of the total sales of Govern-
ment property are made to such small business concerns,
and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of
the Nation;

Whereas the Small Business Administration has helped small
business concerns with access to critical lending opportu-
nities, protected small business concerns from excessive
Federal regulatory enforcement, played a key role in en-
suring full and open competition for Government con-
tracts, and improved the economic environment in which
small business concerns compete;

Whereas for over 50 years, the Small Business Administra-
tion has helped millions of entrepreneurs achieve the
American dream of owning a small business concern and
has played a key role in fostering economic growth; and

Whereas the President has designated the week beginning
May 17, 2009, as “National Small Business Week”:
Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

1 (1) honors the entrepreneurial spirit of small
2 business concerns in the United States during Na-
3 tional Small Business Week, beginning May 17,
4 2009;

5 (2) applauds the efforts and achievements of
6 the owners of small business concerns and their em-
7 ployees, whose hard work and commitment to excel-
8 lence have made them a key part of the Nation's
9 economic vitality;

10 (3) recognizes the work of the Small Business
11 Administration and its resource partners in pro-
12 viding assistance to entrepreneurs and small busi-
13 ness concerns; and

14 (4) strongly urges the President to take steps
15 to ensure that—

16 (A) the applicable procurement goals for
17 small business concerns, including the goals for
18 small business concerns owned and controlled
19 by service-disabled veterans, small business con-
20 cerns owned and controlled by women,
21 HUBZone small business concerns, and socially
22 and economically disadvantaged small business
23 concerns, are reached by all Federal agencies;

24 (B) guaranteed loans, microloans, and ven-
25 ture capital, for start-up and growing small

1 business concerns, are made available to all
2 qualified small business concerns;

3 (C) the management assistance programs
4 delivered by resource partners on behalf of the
5 Small Business Administration, such as small
6 business development centers, women's business
7 centers, veterans business outreach centers, and
8 the Service Corps of Retired Executives, are
9 provided with the Federal resources necessary
10 to do their jobs;

11 (D) reforms to the disaster loan program
12 of the Small Business Administration are imple-
13 mented as quickly as possible;

14 (E) tax policy spurs small business growth,
15 creates jobs, and increases competitiveness;

16 (F) the Federal Government reduces the
17 regulatory compliance burden on small busi-
18 nesses; and

19 (G) broader health reforms efforts address
20 the specific needs of small businesses and the
21 self-employed in providing quality and afford-
22 able health insurance coverage to their employ-
23 ees.

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