

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 177

Honoring the entrepreneurial spirit of small business concerns in the United States during National Small Business Week, which begins on June 17, 2013.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 19, 2013

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. VITTER, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. ENZI, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. COWAN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BROWN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BENNET, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. NELSON, Mr. COONS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. CARPER, Mr. KING, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KIRK, Mr. THUNE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. TESTER) 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, which begins on June 17, 2013.

Whereas 2013 marks the 50th anniversary of National Small Business Week;

Whereas the approximately 27,900,000 small business concerns in the United States are the driving force behind

the Nation's economy, creating nearly 2 out of every 3 new jobs and generating close to 50 percent of the Nation's non-farm gross domestic product;

Whereas small businesses are the driving force behind the economic recovery of the United States;

Whereas small businesses represent 99.7 percent of employer firms in the United States;

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

Whereas small business concerns represent 98 percent of all exporters and produce 31 percent of exported goods;

Whereas Congress established the Small Business Administration in 1953 to aid, counsel, assist, and protect the interests of small business concerns in order to preserve free and competitive enterprise, to ensure that a fair proportion of the total Federal Government purchases, contracts, and subcontracts for property and services are placed with small business concerns, to ensure that a fair proportion of the total sales of government property are made to small business concerns, and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of the United States;

Whereas, every year since 1963, the President has designated a "National Small Business Week" to recognize the contributions of small businesses to the economic well-being of the United States;

Whereas, in 2013, National Small Business Week will honor the estimated 27,900,000 small businesses in the United States;

Whereas the Small Business Administration has helped small business concerns by providing access to critical lending opportunities, protecting small business concerns from

excessive Federal regulatory enforcement, helping to ensure full and open competition for government contracts, and improving the economic environment in which small business concerns compete;

Whereas, for more than 50 years, the Small Business Administration has helped millions of entrepreneurs achieve the American dream of owning a small business, and has played a key role in fostering economic growth; and

Whereas the President has designated the week beginning June 17, 2013, as “National Small Business Week”:
Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) honors the entrepreneurial spirit of small
3 business concerns in the United States during Na-
4 tional Small Business Week, which begins on June
5 17, 2013;

6 (2) applauds the efforts and achievements of
7 the owners and employees of small business con-
8 cerns, whose hard work and commitment to excel-
9 lence have made small business concerns a key part
10 of the economic vitality of the United States;

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

15 (4) recognizes the importance of ensuring
16 that—

1 (A) guaranteed loans, including microloans
2 and microloan technical assistance, for start-up
3 and growing small business concerns, and ven-
4 ture capital, are made available to all qualified
5 small business concerns;

6 (B) the management assistance programs
7 delivered by resource partners on behalf of the
8 Small Business Administration, such as Small
9 Business Development Centers, Women's Busi-
10 ness Centers, and the Service Corps of Retired
11 Executives, are recognized for providing inval-
12 uable counseling services to entrepreneurs in the
13 United States;

14 (C) the Small Business Administration
15 continues to provide timely and efficient dis-
16 aster assistance so that small businesses in
17 areas struck by natural or manmade disasters
18 can quickly return to business to keep local
19 economies alive in the aftermath of such disas-
20 ters;

21 (D) affordable broadband Internet access
22 is available to all people in the United States,
23 particularly people in rural and underserved
24 communities, so that small businesses can use
25 the Internet to make their operations more

1 globally competitive while boosting local econo-
2 mies;

3 (E) regulatory relief is provided to small
4 businesses through the reduction of duplicative
5 or unnecessary regulatory requirements that in-
6 crease costs for small businesses; and

7 (F) leveling the playing field for con-
8 tracting opportunities remains a primary focus,
9 so that small businesses, particularly minority-
10 owned small businesses, can compete for and
11 win more of the \$400,000,000,000 in contracts
12 that the Federal Government enters into each
13 year for goods and services.

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