

1 SJR65
2 218571-1
3 By Senators Waggoner and Givhan
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 08-MAR-22

8 SUPPORTING THE WEEK OF MAY 1-7, 2022, AS "NATIONAL
9 SMALL BUSINESS WEEK" AND COMMENDING SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS OF
10 ALABAMA.

11
12 WHEREAS, 2022 marks the 59th anniversary of
13 "National Small Business Week"; and

14 WHEREAS, as our nation collectively recovers from an
15 unprecedented pandemic, we celebrate the resolve and ingenuity
16 of American businesses, entrepreneurs, and workers; and

17 WHEREAS, American small businesses have been
18 critical in revitalizing economically distressed areas; and

19 WHEREAS, our nation's small businesses are at the
20 very core of our American identity and prosperity, creating
21 jobs and giving back during times of prosperity and challenge;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, with over 408,000 small businesses in the
24 State of Alabama, small business owners employ 47 percent of
25 the state's private sector workforce, and small businesses
26 account for 99 percent of Alabama businesses; and

1 WHEREAS, over the last 25 years, Alabama small
2 business employment has grown by nearly 10 percent; and

3 WHEREAS, there are more than 30 million small
4 businesses in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, small businesses in the United States
6 employ half of the workforce of the United States and make up
7 99.7 percent of all employees in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, small businesses produce one-third of the
9 exports of the United States and account for nearly half of
10 private sector output, and Alabama small firms exported goods
11 worth over \$2 billion; and

12 WHEREAS, 9.1 percent of all small business owners in
13 the United States are veterans; and

14 WHEREAS, women make up 47 percent of workers and own
15 43 percent of small businesses; and

16 WHEREAS, two out of every three new jobs in the
17 United States are created by small businesses; now therefore,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
19 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we support the week of May
20 1-7, 2022, as "National Small Business Week"; we encourage all
21 residents of Alabama to: 1) celebrate the entrepreneurial
22 spirit of small business owners in Alabama and the Nation who
23 have chartered their own course to provide jobs and bright
24 futures for millions of American workers; 2) understand the
25 importance of creating a small business climate that allows
26 for sustained economic recovery; 3) celebrate the invaluable
27 contribution that small businesses make to the United States

1 and to Alabama as the backbone of the economy; 4) support
2 increasing consumer awareness of the value and opportunity
3 that small businesses bring to their local communities; and 5)
4 understand the importance of providing more access and
5 resources to minority-owned and underserved firms.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we urge our fellow
7 citizens to recognize the critical contributions of Alabama's
8 entrepreneurs and small businesses and small business owners
9 as they grow our state and our nation's economy.