

**First Regular Session  
Sixty-seventh General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R09-0953.01 Leah Bassity

**SJR09-022**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 09-022**

101 **CONCERNING THE PROCLAMATION OF MARCH 9-13, 2009 AS SMALL**  
102 **BUSINESS WEEK.**

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1           WHEREAS, Every year our nation sets aside a week to honor 25  
2 million Americans whose entrepreneurial drive personifies the American  
3 dream, to talk about the challenges small businesses face, and to plan for  
4 how those challenges can be overcome; and

5           WHEREAS, Colorado has over 425,000 small businesses,  
6 including over 135,000 woman-owned and 46,000 minority-owned  
7 businesses, that provide the economic foundation for its families and  
8 communities; and

9           WHEREAS, Small businesses are a vital part of the nation's  
10 economy, as they represent the majority of employers and employ over  
11 half of all private sector employees; and

12           WHEREAS, Small and medium enterprises represent a great  
13 majority of all exporters and create three out of every four jobs in the  
14 United States; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1           WHEREAS, It is important to appreciate the significant role that  
2 our small entrepreneurs are playing in the effort to strengthen the U.S.  
3 economy, as their hard work and efforts are vital to the creation of new  
4 jobs for Americans; and

5           WHEREAS, Rising health care costs disproportionately affect  
6 small businesses and their employees, which hinder their purchasing and  
7 bargaining power; and

8           WHEREAS, The estate tax places a significant burden on small  
9 businesses and can serve as a powerful disincentive to invest and hire  
10 new employees; and

11           WHEREAS, Small businesses tend to have less ready access to  
12 credit than their larger counterparts, and the current financial crisis makes  
13 it difficult for small businesses to get access to loans; and

14           WHEREAS, It is time to acknowledge these challenges, to  
15 celebrate the success of small businesses, and to thank America's small  
16 business owners for their contributions to our communities, our economy,  
17 and our nation; now, therefore,

18           *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-seventh*  
19 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

20           (1) That we, the members of the General Assembly of the State of  
21 Colorado:

22           (a) Recognize the small businesses of Colorado by observing  
23 March 9 through 13, 2009, as Small Business Week; and

24           (b) Commit to learning more about Colorado's entrepreneurs and  
25 how legislation can help small businesses continue to be successful in this  
26 state; and

27           (c) Acknowledge and examine the multitude of challenges small  
28 businesses currently face; and

29           (d) Call for economic relief in the form of tax breaks for small  
30 businesses.

31           *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
32 to the Honorable Governor Bill Ritter, Jr.; the members of Colorado's  
33 Congressional delegation; Jim Henderson, Regional Advocate of the U.S.  
34 Small Business Administration's Region 8; and Dan Danner, President  
35 and CEO of the National Federation of Independent Business.