



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 09-022

BY SENATOR(S) Sandoval, Bacon, Boyd, Brophy, Cadman, Carroll M., Foster, Gibbs, Harvey, Heath, Hodge, Hudak, Isgar, Keller, Kester, King K., Kopp, Lundberg, Mitchell, Morse, Newell, Penry, Renfro, Romer, Scheffel, Schultheis, Schwartz, Shaffer B., Spence, Tapia, Tochtrop, Veiga, White, Williams, Groff;

also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Looper, Acree, Apuan, Balmer, Baumgardner, Bradford, Frangas, Gardner B., Gerou, Kerr J., King S., Lambert, Liston, Marostica, May, McCann, McNulty, Murray, Nikkel, Priola, Rice, Riesberg, Roberts, Schafer S., Stephens, Summers, Swalm, Tipton, Vaad, Waller.

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, It is important to appreciate the significant role that our small entrepreneurs are playing in the effort to strengthen the U.S.

economy, as their hard work and efforts are vital to the creation of new jobs for Americans; and

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

WHEREAS, The estate tax places a significant burden on small businesses and can serve as a powerful disincentive; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to the Honorable Governor Bill Ritter, Jr.; the members of Colorado's

Congressional delegation; Jim Henderson, Regional Advocate of the U.S. Small Business Administration's Region 8; and Dan Danner, President and CEO of the National Federation of Independent Business.

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