A RESOLUTION

Designating the month of September 2020 as "Business Month" in Pennsylvania to celebrate the history of this Commonwealth's businesses and industries and acknowledge the need to adapt to the ever-changing needs of our business community.

WHEREAS, This Commonwealth, from its very inception, was a leader in business and home to some of the nation's earliest industrialists; and

WHEREAS, With a world class workforce and a proud legacy in industry and manufacturing, this Commonwealth is the birthplace of the country's industrial revolution, putting the pieces together that helped to build America and led to establishing the United States as the world's leading economic power; and

WHEREAS, This Commonwealth was its own economic giant driven by the expansion of industries such as rail, mining, petroleum and manufacturing, as well as iron and steel production; and

WHEREAS, Behind the expansion of industries in this
WHEREAS, Over the years as markets fluctuated, regulatory environments changed and production moved overseas but the one thing that remained constant was American ingenuity; and
WHEREAS, The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11, 2020, and subsequently Pennsylvania's nonlife-sustaining businesses were shut down on March 19, 2020; and
WHEREAS, As a result of the business shutdown, unemployment compensation claims totaled 2,177,480 as of June 2020 and continue to increase, while Pandemic Unemployment Assistance claims exceed 773,206; and
WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic revealed the weakness in our supply chains and the consequences of relying too heavily on a global economy to supply us with critical goods, including respirators and medical equipment, ingredients for making critical drugs and even components for military equipment; and
WHEREAS, At this critical juncture, this Commonwealth is poised to lead the recovery effort out of the economic crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic by supporting rapid job creation within industry and manufacturing; and
WHEREAS, Quick and decisive action in removing barriers to job creation will create a pathway for this Commonwealth to be on the forefront of our economic recovery in the short term and enable this Commonwealth to continue to grow in the long term; and
WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's surest path to sustainable prosperity is to embrace the concept of a diverse economy that includes traditional industry alongside our emerging technology, a
partnership to rally around for the common cause of recovery and revitalization and to aggressively unlock virtually unlimited growth potential across this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, By looking to its past, this Commonwealth can see its future and that it is uniquely positioned to lead the new American Renaissance; and

WHEREAS, This Commonwealth, the original leader of business and industry, can rely on its unique advantages of a highly skilled labor force, abundant and inexpensive energy, a storied history of manufacturing expertise and cutting-edge technology and innovation to become the epicenter of the new American Renaissance as a matter of national security, economic vibrancy, sustainable employment and environmental stewardship; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the month of September 2020 as "Business Month" in Pennsylvania to celebrate the history of this Commonwealth's businesses and industries and acknowledge the need to adapt to the ever-changing needs of our business community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives declare that Pennsylvania is open for business.