
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 624 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BOBACK, BIZZARRO, HENNESSEY, MILLARD, HELM,
HICKERNELL, SHUSTERMAN, FREEMAN, RYAN, JONES, KINSEY, KORTZ,
SCHLOSSBERG, KOSIEROWSKI, THOMAS, MENTZER, BURNS, SCHMITT,
PICKETT, LONGIETTI, MACKENZIE, YOUNGBLOOD, HILL-EVANS, MURT,
EVERETT, DEASY, MALAGARI, ROEBUCK, DIGIROLAMO, OTTEN AND
GILLEN, DECEMBER 2, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, DECEMBER 2, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Supporting the observance of "National Women's Small Business
2 Month" to celebrate women entrepreneurs and small business
3 owners and affirming their progress.

4 WHEREAS, Each October, the United States observes "National
5 Women's Small Business Month"; and

6 WHEREAS, It is fitting to recognize women's entrepreneurship
7 and representation in proprietorships, partnerships,
8 corporations and part-time businesses; and

9 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Labor has reported
10 that nearly all women-owned businesses are considered small
11 businesses; and

12 WHEREAS, In keeping with a steady rise over the past three
13 decades, the number of women-owned small businesses increased
14 21% between 2014 and 2019, to nearly 13 million; and

15 WHEREAS, Revenue during the same period also increased 21%,
16 to \$1.9 trillion; and

1 WHEREAS, Women of color comprise 50% of all women business
2 owners, control 39% of all privately held businesses, employ
3 nearly 2.4 million people and generate \$422.5 billion in
4 revenue; and

5 WHEREAS, Between 2007 and 2018, the number of businesses
6 owned by women of color grew by 163%; and

7 WHEREAS, Women-owned small businesses have added 9.4 million
8 jobs to the United States economy; and

9 WHEREAS, These businesses appear in every industry, engage in
10 more than 70 global labor markets and constitute 12% of United
11 States exporters; and

12 WHEREAS, The Women's Business Ownership Act of 1988, enacted
13 October 25, 1988, addresses significant barriers within Federal
14 regulatory processes, business systems and communities at large;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Facilitating fair access to capital was a
17 significant reform at a time when business loans were not issued
18 in a woman's name; and

19 WHEREAS, The act compels Federal data collection and provides
20 for the National Women's Business Council and the Office of
21 Women's Business Ownership; and

22 WHEREAS, The United States Small Business Administration, its
23 Office of Advocacy and network of Women's Business Centers, and
24 the Department of Labor's Women's Bureau are committed to
25 strengthening women's participation in private and public
26 sectors; and

27 WHEREAS, The Federal Government pursues a goal of awarding at
28 least 5% of all Federal contracting dollars to women-owned small
29 businesses each year; and

30 WHEREAS, As part of celebrating women entrepreneurs and small

1 business owners, the House of Representatives seeks public
2 policies directed toward business growth and competitiveness,
3 job creation and upward economic mobility; and

4 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives notes the value and
5 impact of women-owned small businesses in national and global
6 markets and in every community in this Commonwealth; and

7 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives commemorates the
8 enactment of the Women's Business Ownership Act of 1988 and
9 seeks wider recognition of "National Women's Small Business
10 Month"; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives support the
12 observance of "National Women's Small Business Month" to
13 celebrate women entrepreneurs and small business owners and
14 affirm their progress.