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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1076 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY BOBACK, RYAN, MILLARD, PICKETT, JAMES, LONGIETTI,  
SCHLEGEL CULVER, JONES, LEE, HELM, STAATS, BURNS, BROWN,  
ULLMAN, READSHAW, WILLIAMS, HILL-EVANS, MACKENZIE, DRISCOLL,  
SONNEY, THOMAS, ISAACSON, ROTHMAN, KINSEY, MIZGORSKI, WEBSTER  
AND HOHENSTEIN, OCTOBER 20, 2020

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
OCTOBER 20, 2020

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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.