

**2012 SESSION**

**ENROLLED**

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 144**

*Designating September 21, in 2012 and in each succeeding year, as Small Business Day in Virginia.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 20, 2012

Agreed to by the Senate, February 28, 2012

WHEREAS, small businesses play a vital role in the health and vitality of the economies of the Commonwealth and nation; and

WHEREAS, small businesses are found throughout the nation in a variety of industries, including manufacturing, hospitality, professional and business services, and transportation; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration, nationwide small businesses represent 99.7 percent of all employer firms in the United States, employ half of all private sector employees, and pay 44 percent of the United States' private payroll; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, the U.S. Small Business Administration reported that small businesses in the Commonwealth totaled 646,021 and made up 97.9 percent of the state's employers; and

WHEREAS, small businesses create jobs, provide key services to customers, and contribute to the stability of local economies; and

WHEREAS, small businesses provide employment opportunities and pathways for personal and professional fulfillment for numerous individuals with the number of women and minority business owners growing; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the Commonwealth designate a day to recognize the impact that small businesses have at a local, state, and national level; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate September 21, in 2012 and in each succeeding year, as Small Business Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.

**ENROLLED**

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