



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, upon the occasion of Small Business Saturday, the state of Alabama celebrates our local small businesses and the contribution they make to our local economy and community. According to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 23 million small businesses in the United States that represent more than 99 percent of American employer firms, create more than two-thirds of the net new jobs and generate 46 percent of private gross domestic product; and

WHEREAS, small businesses employ more than 55 percent of the working population in the United States; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration, there are approximately 400,000 small businesses in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, 89 percent of consumers in the United States agree that small businesses contribute positively to the local community by supplying jobs and generating tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, approximately 97 percent of all employers in Alabama are small business owners; and

WHEREAS, 87 percent of consumers in the United States have small businesses in their community that the consumers would miss if the small businesses closed; and

WHEREAS, 93 percent of consumers in the United States agree that it is important for people to support the small businesses that they value in their community; and

WHEREAS, in September 2014, Governor Robert Bentley announced the creation of the Alabama Small Business Commission to promote policies that will assist new business start-ups and the expansion of existing small businesses; and

WHEREAS, Alabama supports our local small businesses that create jobs, boost our economy and preserve our neighborhoods:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert Bentley, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim November 29, 2014, as:

Small Business Saturday

in the state of Alabama and urge the residents of our community, and communities across the country, to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 19th day of November 2014.

Robert Bentley

Robert Bentley, Governor