



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, SBDC Day is a national, collective proclamation of the success and impact America's Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) have across the nation in economic development and the small businesses community; and

WHEREAS, the fourth America's SBDC Day will take place on Wednesday, March 18, 2020, uniting the nearly 1,000 SBDC centers across the country and the hundreds of thousands of clients they serve by sharing, in real time, success stories and notable impacts; and

WHEREAS, the America's SBDC represents America's nationwide network of Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) which is the most comprehensive small business assistance network in the United States and its territories; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama SBDC Network is celebrating its 40th year, having provided technical assistance and expert guidance to Alabama's small business community since 1980, evolving with the business environment to help companies embrace new technologies, expand globally, and pursue government contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama SBDC Network helps small businesses succeed, and helps aspiring entrepreneurs achieve the American dream of owning their own business; and

WHEREAS, 2019 capped another record five-year run for Alabama SBDC clients, who created 6,917 jobs, started 1,026 new businesses, accessed \$354.1M in capital, and \$1.61B in procurement contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Offices of Small Business Advocacy, Minority Affairs, International Trade, and Rural Business Development at the Alabama Department of Commerce collaborate with the Alabama SBDC to ensure quality job creation throughout Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama SBDC Network is hosted by the University of Alabama, which partners with eight other institutions of higher education in an effort to connect entrepreneurs with the resources and insights of academia, and to connect students with experiential learning and future employment opportunities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim March 18, 2020, as

Alabama SBDC Day

in the state of Alabama.



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 18th day of March 2020.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor