

## SJR79 INTRODUCED



1     SJR79  
2     W1GSC99-1  
3     By Senator Waggoner  
4     RFD:  
5     First Read: 24-Apr-25



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4 SJR\_\_\_ SUPPORTING THE WEEK OF MAY 4-10, 2025, AS NATIONAL  
5 SMALL BUSINESS WEEK AND COMMENDING SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS IN  
6 ALABAMA.

7  
8 WHEREAS, 2025 marks the 62nd Anniversary of National  
9 Small Business Week; and

10 WHEREAS, we celebrate the multitude of products,  
11 resolve, and ingenuity of American small businesses,  
12 entrepreneurs, and workers; and

13 WHEREAS, American small businesses have been critical  
14 in revitalizing economically distressed areas; and

15 WHEREAS, our nation's small businesses are at the  
16 very core of our free market and prosperity, creating and  
17 providing jobs and benefits to workers and their families;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, with over 449,024 small businesses in the  
20 State of Alabama, small business owners employ 46.7 percent  
21 of the state's private sector workforce, and small  
22 businesses account for 99.4 percent of Alabama businesses;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, over the last 25 years, Alabama small  
25 business employment has grown by nearly 10 percent; and

26 WHEREAS, small businesses in the United States employ  
27 half of the workforce of the United States and make up 99.7  
28 percent of all employees in the United States; and



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WHEREAS, exports by small businesses reached \$648.5 billion, making up 35.7 percent of the exports of the United States, and Alabama small firms exported goods worth over \$4.4 billion; and

WHEREAS, 8.1 percent of all Alabama small business owners are Veterans; and

WHEREAS, women make up 47.5 percent of Alabama small business workers and own 45.1 percent of small businesses in our state; and

WHEREAS, minorities make up 32 percent of Alabama workers and own 26.4 percent of businesses in our state; and

WHEREAS, two out of every three new jobs in the United States are created by small businesses; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we support the week of May 4-10, 2025, as National Small Business Week; we encourage all residents of Alabama to: (1) celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit of small business owners in Alabama and our nation who have chartered their own course to provide jobs and bright futures for millions of American workers; (2) understand the importance of creating a small business climate that allows for sustained economic recovery; (3) celebrate the invaluable contribution that small businesses make to the United States and to Alabama as the backbone of the economy; (4) support increasing consumer awareness of the value and opportunity that small businesses bring to their local communities; (5) recognize that 66



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57     percent of small businesses volunteer to serve and donate to  
58     local charities; and (6) understand the importance of  
59     providing more access and resources to minority-owned and  
60     underserved firms.

61             BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we urge our fellow  
62     citizens to recognize the critical contributions of  
63     Alabama's small businesses, entrepreneurs, and small  
64     business owners as they contribute to the growth of Alabama  
65     and our nation's economy.