

**2018 -- S 2878**

LC005448

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018**

**SENATE RESOLUTION**

CELEBRATING THE WEEK OF APRIL 29 THROUGH MAY 4, 2018, AS "NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK" AND PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 7 THROUGH MAY 11, 2018 TO BE "RHODE ISLAND SMALL BUSINESS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Lombardo, Sosnowski, Ruggerio, Raptakis, and Metts

Date Introduced: May 08, 2018

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1           WHEREAS, Every year the State of Rhode Island sets aside time to honor small business  
2 owners and their employees and to thank them for helping to ensure that the United States  
3 remains the world's economic leader and for their contributions to the economic growth and  
4 vitality of our State; and

5           WHEREAS, Small businesses are responsible for the creation of close to two-thirds of all  
6 new jobs in America and employ more than half of all Americans. In Rhode Island, as of 2014,  
7 small businesses employed 225,671 people equaling 53.5 percent of the private workforce.  
8 Businesses with fewer than 100 employees have the biggest share of small business employment;  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, The creativity, ingenuity and entrepreneurial spirit exhibited on a daily basis  
11 by hard-working small business owners and employees form the backbone of our nation and are  
12 the lifeblood of the cities and towns across America and within Rhode Island; and

13           WHEREAS, Each year, the United States Small Business Administration hands out  
14 various "Small Business Week Awards" to outstanding small business leaders in every state and  
15 region in the nation. This year, during the week of May 7 through May 11, the Rhode Island State  
16 Senate will be honoring the United States Small Business Administration Rhode Island honorees.  
17 The distinguished 2018 recipients are: Ms. Kelly B. Mendell, President of MIKEL, Inc., Small  
18 Business Person of the Year, Charles Dewey, CEO, Evans Capacitor Company, National

1 Subcontractor of the Year, Carol Dancer, President, Absorbent Specialty Products, LLC., New  
2 England Woman-Owned Small Business Person of the Year, John Lindsey Shepard, CEO,  
3 Veteran Assembled electronics (VAe), New England Veteran-Owned Small Business Person of  
4 the Year, Buck Harris, Vice President, Community Investment Corporation, New England  
5 Financial Services Champion of the Year, Michael Sigourney, CEO & Founder, Anne Beaupre  
6 Sigourney, CFO, and Rick Grundy, President, AVTECH Software, Inc., Small Business  
7 Exporters of the Year, Donald J. Boyle, President, Jade Manufacturing Company, Inc., Small  
8 Business Manufacturer of the Year, Nancy Hatch Warner, Owner, The Worm Ladies of  
9 Charlestown, Inc., Microenterprise of the Year, Alba Lucia Rios Puerto, Owner, Spanish  
10 Wholesale Center, Minority-Owned Small Business Person of the Year, Johnny Luo, M.D.,  
11 President, Doctor's Choice, Young Entrepreneur of the Year, Lisa M. Sienkiewicz, Co-Owner,  
12 and Gail Parella, Co-Owner, Gil's Appliances, Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Small Business of  
13 the Year, Kim M. Coulter, Partner, William A. Coulter, Partner, Nina L. Luchka, Partner, Joshua  
14 A. Coulter, Partner, Stony Hill Cattle Company, LLC, Home-Based Small Business of the Year,  
15 Cheryl Watkins Snead, Posthumously, Founder, President and CEO, Banneker Industries, Inc.,  
16 Rhode Island District Director Award, and Christine Francis, Owner, Carmen & Ginger, Joseph  
17 G.E. Knight Award For Entrepreneurial Excellence; now, therefore be it

18         RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
19 hereby celebrates the week of April 29 through May 4, 2018, as "National Small Business Week"  
20 and proclaims the week of May 7 through May 11, 2018, to be "Rhode Island Small Business  
21 Week" in the State of Rhode Island; and be it further

22         RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
23 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. Mark S. Hayward, District Director, Rhode  
24 Island District Office, United States Small Business Administration.

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