



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina recognizes and values the dedication and entrepreneurial spirit of small business owners, whose firms form the backbone of our state and national economies; and

WHEREAS, small businesses total more than 871,000 and account for 99.6 percent of all North Carolina businesses; small firms employ 1.6 million, or about half, of the state's private-sector workforce, and created more than 34,000 of the net new jobs in our state in 2014; and

WHEREAS, more than 9,500 small firms exported goods from North Carolina in 2014, accounting for 88 percent of the firms which exported goods and generating 26 percent of the state's \$28 billion in exports; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina public agencies, educational institutions, and private sector organizations collaborate to help small businesses grow and create new jobs by providing exemplary workforce training, business call centers, financial assistance programs, research, and technical assistance; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina provides many services to small businesses through community college small business centers; the Small Business and Technology Development Center; SCORE; SBA Women's Business Centers; the Veterans Business Outreach Center; Business Link North Carolina, hosted by the Economic Development Partnership; and the Rural Center; and

WHEREAS, small businesses in North Carolina also receive assistance through the United States Small Business Administration (SBA), which was created by the Small Business Act of 1953 to maintain and strengthen the nation's economy by providing entrepreneurs and small businesses access to capital, counseling, training, and contracting, and by assisting families and businesses in recovering from natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, during National Small Business Week, the SBA highlights the impact of outstanding small business owners and entrepreneurs whose work has enhanced our nation's global competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, on May 3, 2018, Carolina Small Business Development Fund and the SBA North Carolina District Office will host Small Business Week Awards Day to honor small businesses that have demonstrated excellence in their industry and made significant contributions to our local communities in job creation and economic growth;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 29 – May 5, 2018, as “**SMALL BUSINESS WEEK**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.





Roy Cooper
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this nineteenth day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.