

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 86

Senator LaSata, Alexander, Bayer, Bizon, Chang, Geiss, Johnson, Lauwers, Lucido, McCann, McMorrow, Polehanki, Theis, VanderWall and Wojno offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize October 2019 as Women's Small
2 Business Month.

3 Whereas, October is a time to celebrate the growth and
4 accomplishments of women entrepreneurs and small business owners,
5 while also supporting efforts to increase the awareness of the
6 value of women-owned small businesses; and

7 Whereas, There are over 29,000 Michigan small businesses owned
8 by women which employ over a quarter-million citizens in the Great
9 Lakes State; and

10 Whereas, Between 2014 and 2019, women-owned businesses in

1 Michigan were rated as one of the highest in the country for
2 workforce growth, firm expansion, and increased revenue; and

3 Whereas, Michigan was recently known as one of the top five
4 best states for women to start a small business, proving our
5 state's dedication to a business-friendly environment; and

6 Whereas, Nationally, there are an estimated 11,600,000 women-
7 owned businesses in the United States that employ nearly 9 million
8 individuals and generate more than \$1.7 trillion in revenue; and

9 Whereas, Women-owned businesses in the United States account
10 for 39 percent of all businesses, employ 8 percent of the total
11 private sector workforce, and contribute 4.2 percent of total
12 business revenue; and

13 Whereas, Women-owned businesses had a growth rate of two and a
14 half times the national average, growing 114 percent between 1997
15 and 2017; and

16 Whereas, Women-owned small businesses play an important role
17 in our economy and encourage growth in our communities; and

18 Whereas, In cooperation with the Small Business Administration
19 and local partners, Small Business Centers, and Women's Business
20 Centers, it is important to equip businesswomen with the skills
21 they need to succeed, while also aiding in the enhancement of
22 entrepreneurial development across our state; and

23 Whereas, We appreciate all women entrepreneurs whose small
24 businesses contribute to the growth of our state and who continue
25 to make it a great place to live, work, and raise a family; now,
26 therefore, be it

27 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
28 body recognize October 2019 as Women's Small Business Month; and be
29 it further

1 Resolved, That we strongly encourage all Michigan residents to
2 support women-owned small businesses so they continue to thrive in
3 the future.