

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, President George W. Bush has declared the week
3 of May 6 as Small Business Week; and

4 WHEREAS, It is acknowledged that small business is key to
5 the Illinois economy; according to the Small Business
6 Administration, Illinois has almost 280,000 employers, and
7 over 98% are small with 100 or fewer employees; and

8 WHEREAS, These small businesses make up almost 50% of the
9 State's total employment, providing jobs to 2.5 million
10 Illinoisans; they create 80% of all new jobs and are key
11 during economic recessions; and

12 WHEREAS, Illinois is home to over 330,000 self-employed
13 individuals; and

14 WHEREAS, Small business innovation has given society many
15 of the technological changes that have increased productivity
16 and fueled economic growth and prosperity; bold entrepreneurs
17 brought the automobile production line, fast food
18 franchising, and overnight mail delivery; innovators, working
19 alone or in small firms, created the personal computer,
20 pacemaker, and photocopier, all instrumental in the
21 commercial development of the Internet; and

22 WHEREAS, Small businesses are key to Illinois' economic
23 viability; the recession as well as the aftermath of the
24 terrorist attacks have taken their toll on many small
25 businesses; and

26 WHEREAS, Today, small business owners have guarded
27 optimism about the economy, and they struggle continually to
28 keep their businesses open; and

29 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois can learn from the
30 hardships of this State's small business owners; therefore,

1 be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we celebrate the contribution that small business owners make
5 to our economic stability and the countless contributions
6 they make as community leaders and civic patrons; and be it
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the National Federation of Independent Business
10 as an expression of our esteem.