



Proclamation

WHEREAS, there are an estimated 11.6 million women-owned businesses in the United States that employ nearly 9 million people and generate \$1.4 trillion in revenue; and

WHEREAS, businesses owned by women increased by 114% between 1997 and 2017 and now account for 39% of all U.S. firms; and

WHEREAS, businesses owned by minority women increased by 467% between 1997 and 2017 and now account for 46% of all women-owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, small businesses support the local economy, increase employment opportunities, encourage youth entrepreneurship, engage in philanthropic and civil campaigns, and contribute to the vibrancy of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, many women entrepreneurs in Hawai'i have succeeded in diverse settings such as information technology, agriculture, healthcare services, and e-commerce; and

WHEREAS, the State Business Development and Support Division, Small Business Administration, and Patsy T. Mink Center for Business & Leadership (MCBL) provide resources to help entrepreneurs connect with financing new business start-ups and promote economic diversification; and

WHEREAS, MCBL is the only Women's Business Center in Hawai'i designed to help women succeed by assisting them with starting and growing a small business; and

WHEREAS, MCBL provides comprehensive training for women entrepreneurs, access to capital, educational opportunities, leadership development, and counseling services to help them grow in their career and improve business skills;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, DOUGLAS S. CHIN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 2018 as

"WOMEN IN SMALL BUSINESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the talented and dedicated women entrepreneurs who help to drive our state economy forward.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this first day of October 2018.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i