

## STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Ours is a nation founded on the idea that anyone can accomplish anything, and today, this ethos is nowhere more alive than it is in Texas. The essence of our state is elegantly captured in the self-made man archetype, and for nearly two centuries, this spirit has enabled Texans of all backgrounds to build a better life and leave a lasting legacy. Throughout our history, many intrepid souls have launched businesses large and small, and their accomplishments resoundingly affirm Texas' status as the land of opportunity.

The success of our small businesses is largely an outgrowth of our state's character. Texans are industrious, innovative, and independent, and these traits have propelled our people to extraordinary heights in the realm of business. Today, Texas stands proudly among the nations of the world as the eighth-largest economy on the planet, outpacing the likes of Canada, Australia, and Italy in gross domestic product. The bedrock of the Texas economy, moreover, has always been—and will always be—small business.

From the Gulf Coast to the High Plains, more than 3 million small businesses support their communities, employ fellow Texans, and exemplify the great Texas Miracle. Furthermore, small businesses constitute the vast majority of businesses in Texas, and their positive impacts encompass not only commerce but also culture.

Recent years have not been easy for small businesses, and the pandemic brought with it challenges of historic proportions, but in the midst of adversity, Texas small businesses proved their extraordinary resilience. In the coming years, we should all support them enthusiastically as customers and as neighbors.

As we approach Texas' third century, may we reaffirm our commitment to small businesses and to entrepreneurship. Individually and collectively, we must continue to invest in small businesses, and by so doing, we will expand upon the triumphs of the past and build a bigger, better Texas.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to recognize the role that small businesses play in the larger story of our people and to support them as fully as possible. Further, I encourage aspiring entrepreneurs to strive toward their goals knowing that in Texas, their dreams can in fact become reality.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby declare the period from April 28 to May 4, 2024, to be

## **Small Business Week**



in Texas and urge all Texans to observe the occasion with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature this the 8th day of April, 2024.

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Governor of Texas