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HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S DEDICATION TO THE SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, the United States Small Business Administration (SBA) was created in 1953 as an independent agency of the federal government to aid, counsel, assist, and protect the interests of small business concerns; to preserve free competitive enterprise; and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our nation; and

WHEREAS, small businesses play a critical role in our economic recovery and strength, in building America's future, and in helping the United States compete in today's global marketplace; and

WHEREAS, although SBA has grown and evolved in the years since it was established, its bottom line mission remains the same; and

WHEREAS, since its founding on July 30, 1953, the U.S. Small Business Administration has delivered approximately 20 million loans; loan guarantees; contracts; counseling sessions; and other forms of assistance to small businesses across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the SBA helps Americans start, build, and grow businesses; and

WHEREAS, through an extensive network of field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations, SBA delivers its services to people throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam; and

WHEREAS, between 1991 and 2000, the SBA helped almost 435,000 small businesses get more than \$94.6 billion in loans, more than in the entire history of the agency before 1991; and no other lender in this country - perhaps no other lender in the world - has been responsible for as much small business financing as the SBA has during that time; and

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WHEREAS, since 1958, SBA's venture capital program has placed more than \$30 billion into the hands of small business owners to finance their expansion; and

WHEREAS, swifter, more flexible, and often more daring than big businesses, small businesses are masters of innovation; produce the items that line the shelves of America's museums, shops, and homes; keep intact the heritage of ingenuity and enterprise; and help keep the "American Dream" within the reach of millions of Americans; and SBA has been and will continue to be there to help them every step of the way; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, that this body hereby recognizes and commends the United States Small Business Administration for its strong commitment and many years of service to the small business community.

OFFERED BY: San Why