Proclamation Recognizing National Small Business Week 2023

WHEREAS, America's strongest economic growth in almost 40 years has been driven by the resilience of our small businesses who, despite a worldwide pandemic, continue to pioneer innovative solutions to our country's greatest challenges and create opportunities for families and workers; and

WHEREAS, Small businesses remain the lifeblood of our communities and the American economy, employing more than half of our Nation's workers, inventing and innovating to launch new technologies and create new American-led industries, enriching our Main Streets, making parts and products in America to fuel our supply chains, and building our Nation's infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Historic investments made through the American Rescue Plan, CHIPS and Science Act, and other federal programs will ensure small businesses have access to federal capital support, technical assistance, contracting opportunities, and other resources to help lead the way as we rebuild America's roads and bridges and build a diverse energy economy for the future; and

WHEREAS, When we support small businesses, jobs are created, and local communities preserve their unique culture; and

WHEREAS, Entrepreneurship continues to be one of the best pathways to the American Dream, evidenced by the remarkable small business boom with more than 10.5 million Americans applying to start a business since January 2021 — more than in any other two-year period in American history; and

WHEREAS, By renewing our commitment to supporting small businesses, we can maintain our global competitiveness and build a stronger Nation where everyone can succeed - from the bottom up and middle out; and

WHEREAS, The President of the United States has proclaimed National Small Business Week every year since 1963 to highlight the programs and services available to entrepreneurs through the U.S. Small Business Administration and other government agencies; and

WHEREAS, The Mountain State of West Virginia supports and joins in this national effort to recognize the contributions of small businesses to the American economy and their importance in ensuring that our local communities remain as vibrant tomorrow as they are today.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mac Warner, Secretary of State and Chief Business Registration and Licensing Officer for the State of West Virginia, do hereby acknowledge and recognize

April 30 through May 6, 2023

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

in West Virginia

Dated this 30th day of April, 2023

Mac Warner

WV Secretary of State

