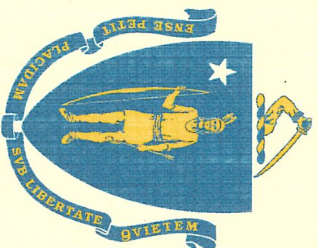


# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

Whereas, Small businesses are the backbone and life blood of local economies in communities throughout the Commonwealth, and serve as job creators and place-makers in our downtowns; and

Whereas, Shopping locally allows Massachusetts residents to invest in their own neighborhoods and grow the vibrancy of their communities, making the Commonwealth a great place to live, work, and play; and

Whereas, Small businesses demonstrated resilience, flexibility, and courage in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic impacts, and were a driving force in the economic recovery of this Commonwealth; and

Whereas, Small businesses employ 1.5 million individuals, constituting nearly half of Massachusetts employees (45.7%); and

Whereas, Small businesses reach communities that have not always benefited from the Commonwealth's overall robust economic vitality, and serve an important role in access to economic opportunity; and

Whereas, Small businesses and small business support organizations like Chambers of Commerce; small business associations; and Main Street and other nonprofit service organizations are key collaborators in advancing our agenda for equitable economic growth; and

Whereas, The contributions of our small business sector should be recognized and celebrated by our Commonwealth,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim May, 2022, to be,

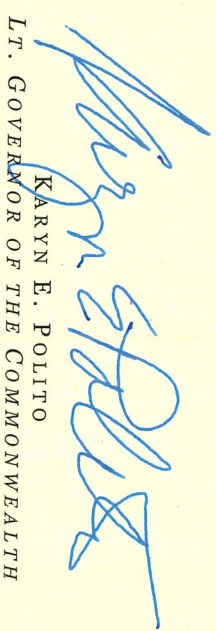
## SMALL BUSINESS MONTH

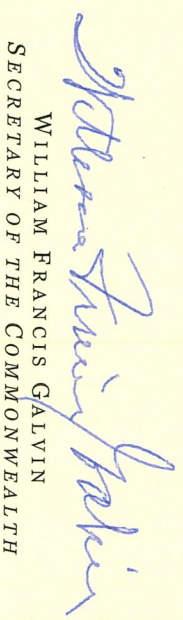
*And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.*

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of May, in the year two thousand and twenty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fifth.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

  
CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

  
KARYN E. POLITO  
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

  
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts