



Proclamation

WHEREAS, small businesses make tremendous contributions to the economic strength of our nation, accounting for 75 percent of all new jobs; and,

WHEREAS, there are currently 28 million small businesses in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, there are currently over 1,118,904 small businesses in Illinois and

WHEREAS, small businesses have created 65 percent of net new jobs over the past two decades; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois' small businesses help preserve Illinois' communities and are integral to our state's unique economic identity; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois supports local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our neighborhoods; and,

WHEREAS, the health of Illinois' economy depends on our support of businesses owned by our friends and neighbors; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois' small business owners and employees enrich our purchasing experiences with their local knowledge and passion; and,

WHEREAS, the weekend after Thanksgiving is a profitable time for retailers, and for every \$100 spent at local small businesses, \$68 is returned to the community; and,

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim November 24, 2012 as **SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY** in Illinois, and encourage consumers in the Land of Lincoln to support the small businesses and merchants that create jobs within our communities and reinvest in our local economies.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol, in the City of Springfield.

this THIRTEENTH day of NOVEMBER, in

the Year of Our Lord two thousand and TWELVE, and of the State of Illinois

the one hundred and NINETY-FOURTH

Dee-see White

SECRETARY OF STATE

Pat Quinn
GOVERNOR