

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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, 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 26, 2011 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 FIRST *day of* NOVEMBER *, in*
the Year of Our Lord two thousand and
ELEVEN *, and of the State of Illinois*
the one hundred and NINETY-THIRD

Deese Witt

SECRETARY OF STATE

Pat Quinn

GOVERNOR