

By Senator Margolis

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 23, 2015, as "National Association of Women Business Owners Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, in 1975, a dozen like-minded businesswomen in the Washington, D.C., area gathered to share information and create an atmosphere of professional community and to further and strengthen their entrepreneurial interests, and

WHEREAS, this group quickly grew to become what is now known as the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO), and

WHEREAS, in 1988, NAWBO played a key role in the passage of the Women's Business Ownership Act, also known as H.R. 5050, which allowed women to receive business loans without the cosignature of a male relative, and

WHEREAS, the federal legislation also created the National Women's Business Council, a body of women entrepreneurs and women's organizations which provides counsel to the President and Congress, and

WHEREAS, over the past 40 years, NAWBO, through its affiliation with the World Association of Women Entrepreneurs, has extended its global reach to 60 countries on five continents and has expanded across the United States, boasting a chapter in nearly every major metropolitan area, including five chapters in Florida: Miami, Ft. Lauderdale/Broward County, Southwest Florida/Estero, Orlando, and Lakeland Metro, and

WHEREAS, NAWBO strongly supports the achievement of state and federal procurement goals for women-owned small businesses and other steps designed to ensure that women business owners

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30 win their fair share of state and federal contracts, realizing
31 that failure to achieve such goals has cost women business
32 owners an average of \$5 billion in lost revenues per year, and

33 WHEREAS, NAWBO propels women entrepreneurs into economic,
34 social, and political spheres of power by strengthening the
35 wealth-creating capacity of its members and promoting economic
36 development within the entrepreneurial community; creating
37 innovative and effective change in the business culture;
38 building strategic alliances, coalitions, and affiliations; and
39 transforming public policy and influencing opinion makers, and

40 WHEREAS, on April 23, 2015, the Florida chapters of NAWBO
41 will converge upon the Capitol to focus the political spotlight
42 on issues affecting women business owners and to celebrate the
43 40th anniversary of NAWBO's founding, NOW, THEREFORE,

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45 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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47 That April 23, 2015, is recognized as "National Association
48 of Women Business Owners Day" in Florida.