

2015-K703

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare Summer 2015 as Small Business Summer in the State of New York

WHEREAS, In New York, the dedication and entrepreneurial spirit of small businesses are vital to the prosperity and vibrancy of every community across this great State and nation; and

WHEREAS, Travel and tourism are vital and growing components of the New York State economy; and

WHEREAS, The tourism sector is the fifth largest employer in New York State on the basis of direct or indirect employment with an estimated eight percent or 1 in 12 of all New Yorkers working in this sector with a total annual income of \$30 billion; and

WHEREAS, In New York, small business plays an important role in the State's tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, Tourism encompasses the State's numerous destinations, recreational, cultural and historic, events, agricultural and scenic activities; and

WHEREAS, Small businesses support tourism activities with the products and services they provide from dining on Main Street to a play on Broadway, swimming at the beach to hiking a mountain, buying from a farmers' market to exploring a cultural festival, visiting a big city on an urban adventure to picking apples at an orchard; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of Commerce over 400,000 enterprises qualify as a small business in New York State, comprising 97 percent of the State's established businesses, including a growing number of minority- and women-owned businesses, as well as first-time entrepreneurs, that thrive and grow in our urban and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, Spending by visitors to New York State in 2013 generated an

estimated \$95.4 billion in total business sales; and

WHEREAS, New York State tourism generated \$7.5 billion in State and local taxes in 2013; and

WHEREAS, The innovation, diversity, competitive strength, job creation, and quality of life that small businesses bring to our economy, particularly tourism, are vital elements to the long-term economic health and the spirit of their home communities; and

WHEREAS, The fabric of each community in our great State is woven with threads from numerous small businesses from diners to fine dining, drive-ins to ice cream stands, wineries to farm stands, corner stores to gift shops, resorts to day spas - each community's character is in part shaped by its small businesses who help drive local tourism; and

WHEREAS, Summer approaches and people begin to plan for vacations, long weekends, and day-trips to New York State's numerous vacation and tourism destinations parks, beaches, mountains, historical and cultural places, urban and rural settings the role of tourism and small businesses, and the goods and services they provide must be recognized and supported; and

WHEREAS, Summertime is an opportunity to recognize the contributions made by small business, creating jobs, paying taxes, and producing goods and services for the people of New York State and for their local communities; and

WHEREAS, All New Yorkers, travelers and visitors are encouraged to support and patronize small businesses throughout the State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to declare Summer 2015 as Small Business Summer in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, and the County Executive of each county in New York State.