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1   HOUSE RESOLUTION

2   WHEREAS, The government of the State of Illinois celebrates
3   our local small businesses and the contributions they make to
4   our local economy and communities; and

5   WHEREAS, According to the United States Small Business
6   Administration, there are currently 28 million small
7   businesses in the United States; they represent more than 99%
8   of American companies, create two-thirds of net new jobs, and
9   generate half of private gross domestic product; and

10   WHEREAS, Small businesses employ half of the employees in
11   the private sector in the United States; and

12   WHEREAS, Eighty-nine percent of consumers in the United
13   States agree that small businesses contribute positively to our
14   State by supplying jobs and generating tax revenue; and

15   WHEREAS, Eighty-six percent of consumers in the United
16   States have small businesses in their community that the
17   consumers would miss if those small businesses closed; and

18   WHEREAS, Ninety-three percent of consumers in the United
19   States agree that it is important for people to support the
20   small businesses that they value in their community; and

1   WHEREAS, Ninety percent of consumers in the United States
2 are willing to pledge support for a "buy local" movement; and

3   WHEREAS, The State of Illinois supports our local
4 businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy, and
5 preserve our neighborhoods; and

6   WHEREAS, Advocacy groups and both public and private
7 organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday
8 after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday; therefore, be it

9   RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
11 we designate the date of November 30, 2013 as "Small Business
12 Saturday" in the State of Illinois; and be it further

13   RESOLVED, That we urge the residents of our State to
14 support small businesses and merchants on Small Business
15 Saturday and throughout the year.