

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 304

Expressing the sense of the Senate that entrepreneurship on the part of minority women-owned businesses should be fully supported and encouraged.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 25, 2017

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that entrepreneurship on the part of minority women-owned businesses should be fully supported and encouraged.

Whereas the number of women-owned small businesses increased by 3,500,000 from 2007 to 2016;

Whereas, for every 10 women-owned businesses launched since 2007, 8 were started by women of color;

Whereas women are now majority owners of 38 percent of all businesses in the United States;

Whereas there are currently almost 5,000,000 minority women-owned small businesses;

Whereas minority women are the fastest growing group of entrepreneurs in the United States;

Whereas African-American women own fully 49 percent of all African-American-owned businesses;

Whereas Latina-owned firms employ 550,400 workers;

Whereas there are currently 922,700 Asian-American women-owned small businesses;

Whereas Native American and Alaska Native women-owned small businesses generated \$10,500,000,000 in revenues; and

Whereas the number of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander women-owned small businesses more than doubled between 2007 and 2016: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

2 (1) October has been designated “National
3 Women’s Small Business Month” by the Small Business Administration;

4 (2) minority women often work in low-paying
5 jobs in the traditional workforce, which means the
6 gender salary gap, child care expenses, and a lack of
7 paid family leave impact women of color more severely
8 than other populations, and expanding access
9 to opportunities for entrepreneurship can help
10 women of color get ahead economically, serve their
11 communities, and care for their families;

12 (3) minority women entrepreneurs are paving
13 the way for women-owned businesses;

1 (4) minority women entrepreneurs are an im-
2 portant segment of the domestic economy of the
3 United States as well as the global economy; and

4 (5) in order to sustain the economy of the
5 United States, Congress must fully support and en-
6 courage the growth of minority women-owned busi-
7 nesses.

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