

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 25, 2015

America has always been a place where people from across the globe could come to grow their entrepreneurial spirits. Whether it is a bakery, a hardware store, or a tech company run out of a friend's garage, small businesses represent what is best about our Nation. These enterprises empower individuals to build better lives for themselves, their families, and their communities. They remind us that in this country, we never have to stray too far from home to secure the American dream.

Small businesses are the engines of our economy. From the pop-up shops in our town squares to the family-owned restaurants that bring our neighborhoods to life, they are what keep America going. They provide the jobs, create the products, and develop the services that drive our Nation forward. That is why my Administration has made it a priority to ensure small business owners have the tools, resources, and expertise they need to succeed. We have increased lending through the Small Business Administration and helped provide access to quality insurance for small businesses through the Affordable Care Act. We are also working to grow opportunities for small businesses to expand Made-in-America exports by reducing barriers to trade and increasing access to new markets through the Trans-Pacific Partnership. We will continue to do everything in our power to help local businesses.

More than our drive to innovate our economy, small businesses reflect who we are as a people. They demonstrate the power of ideas-born in family meetings around kitchen tables or in college dorm rooms-and the courageous spirit needed to become your own boss and provide employment for your neighbors. The boundless tenacity required in taking charge of your own destiny is what makes America great, and it has expanded our capacity to live well, be well, and serve others.

This year, as we participate in Small Business Saturday, we celebrate the energy, ingenuity, and perseverance of the women and men who open up shop around our country-each with distinct and varied backgrounds, cultures, and identities-and we encourage their contributions to our collective American story.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style. The signature is centered at the bottom of the page.