

Proclamation 4429

April 13, 1976

Small Business Week, 1976*By the President of the United States of America***A Proclamation**

Small businesses are the cornerstone of the American economy. They stand as a symbol of American character and spirit. The traits of individual initiative, self-reliance and creativity we prize so highly, as exemplified by our small business men and women, have always been the indispensable characteristics of a free and dynamic people.

Small businesses, seeking new opportunities, have provided us with a vast array of goods and services that enable us to enjoy a standard of living unequalled in the world. The nearly ten million small businesses throughout the United States provide fifty-eight percent of our business employment and a livelihood for millions of Americans. More important, small business continues to provide the avenue by which so many have made the American dream of a better life for themselves and their families a reality.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning May 9, 1976, as Small Business Week, and I ask all Americans to join me in support of an expanding small business community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4430

April 13, 1976

Thomas Jefferson Day, 1976*By the President of the United States of America***A Proclamation**

Two hundred years ago the people of our new land struggled to secure for themselves, and for us, freedom from the rule of a distant government. Among the greatest of that inspired group of patriots was Thomas Jefferson.

Author of the Declaration of Independence, first Secretary of State of the new Republic and our third President, his achievements cover the vast range of public service—as lawyer, member of the Virginia House of Delegates, Governor, Minister to France, Vice President, scholar, scientist, architect and founder of the University of Virginia.