City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Lauren Poe PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, America's progress has been driven by pioneers who think big, take risks and work hard; and

WHEREAS, from the storefront shops that anchor Main Street to the high-tech startups that keep America on the cutting edge, small businesses are the backbone of our economy and the cornerstones of our nation's promise; and

WHEREAS, small business owners and Main Street businesses have energy and a passion for what they do; and

WHEREAS, when we support small businesses, jobs are created and local communities preserve their unique culture; and

WHEREAS, because this country's 30 million small businesses create nearly half of the jobs in our economy, we cannot resolve ourselves to create jobs and spur economic growth in America without discussing ways to support our entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville has approximately 6,500 licensed businesses representing many different sectors of the local economy and operating every day within the city limits; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has proclaimed National Small Business Week in the month of May every year since 1963 to highlight the programs and services available to entrepreneurs through the U.S. Small Business Administration and other government agencies; and

WHEREAS, the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) created Economic Development Week in the month of May, in order to increase awareness for local programs that create jobs, advance career development opportunities and increase the quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville, FI supports and joins in these national efforts and through local City efforts such as the upcoming District 1 - Career Expo, helps America's small businesses do what they do best - grow their business, create and fill jobs and ensure that our communities remain as vibrant tomorrow as they are today.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim May, 2019 as

Small Business and Economic Development Month

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me to support small businesses and economic development throughout the year.

IN WHENESS, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 8^{th} day of May, A.D., 2019.

Iguren Poe Mayor