

By: West, Miles

S.R. No. 315

SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to welcome the attendees and participants of Minority Business Enterprise Public Policy Day at the State Capitol, which is taking place on March 15, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Minority Business Enterprise Public Policy Day has been held during Texas legislative sessions since 1997 and is coordinated by a coalition of advocacy organizations that represent minority-owned and historically underutilized business enterprises in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston-Galveston, and Austin-San Antonio metropolitan areas; and

WHEREAS, The 868 certified minority business enterprises represented by this coalition contribute more than \$17 billion in revenue to the state's economy, and these businesses create and preserve more than 82,000 jobs and provide more than \$4.7 billion in earned wages to Texans; and

WHEREAS, Coalition delegates and other advocates are convening at the State Capitol on March 15 for MBE Public Policy Day to promote awareness, engagement, and collaboration among policymakers, state departments and agencies, and minority-owned business enterprises; participants will meet with elected representatives and select committee members to discuss legislation and policies that affect minority-owned and

historically underutilized businesses; and

WHEREAS, Among the coalition's objectives, the group seeks to demonstrate the significant contributions made by MBEs and HUBs to the state's economy, and delegates will underscore the importance of accountability in developing more inclusive sourcing processes in state contracting and procurement; members of the coalition will also affirm their support of policymaking focused on closing the gaps in engagement and inclusion that affect minority-owned businesses in Texas; and

WHEREAS, MBE Public Policy Day offers a valuable opportunity for MBE and HUB advocates to engage with state legislators and to develop collaborative efforts aimed at meeting the mutual goals of state agencies and coalition members; progress made in pursuit of these shared goals benefits all Texans and empowers Minority Business Enterprises and Historically Underutilized Businesses to further enrich the state's economy and flourishing business culture and to contribute to the continuing growth and prosperity of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 88th Legislature, hereby recognize March 15, 2023, as Minority Business Enterprise Public Policy Day and extend to all participating in the day's events best wishes for a productive and enjoyable visit to the State Capitol; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of this day as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.