



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Rhode Island Small Business Week**

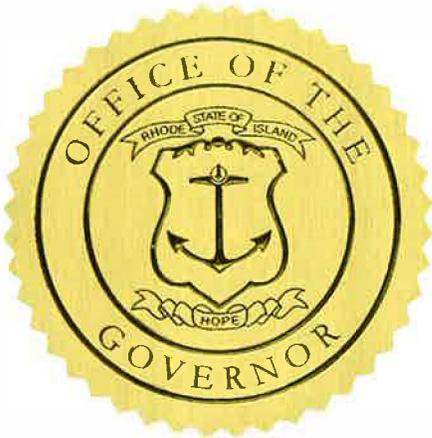
**WHEREAS**, every year, our Nation and State set aside a week to honor small business owners, advocates and workers for their important role in ensuring that America remains the economic leader of the world; and

**WHEREAS**, every day, small businesses help enhance the lives of our citizens and the lead the way in our economy by providing jobs and opportunities while being the fastest growth sector; and

**WHEREAS**, small businesses are the lifeblood of the cities and towns across this country and state and continue to be the backbone of economy; and

**WHEREAS**, we salute small business owners, entrepreneurs, and employees for enhancing our communities and expanding opportunities for all; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gina M. Raimondo**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim May 11 – 15, 2015 as: ***Rhode Island Small Business Week*** in the state and encourage all residents to shop at local small businesses.



Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 11 day of May, 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina Raimondo".

**Gina M. Raimondo**  
Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nellie M. Gorbea".

**Nellie M. Gorbea**  
Secretary of State