

## **PROCLAMATION**

PROCLAIMING MARCH 18, 2020, AS A "SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER DAY" IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

WHEREAS, the success of small businesses and entrepreneurs is a critical component of a vibrant economy and is directly impactful to a community and its prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Small Business Development Center Network is an inter-institutional program serving entrepreneurs and small business owners throughout the great State of Alabama with no cost technical services with one-on-one consulting and comprehensive research resulting in access to capital, government procurement opportunities and international trade which lay the foundation for their success; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is accredited by America's SBDC, the association of all SBDC's in the United States of America, for unconditionally meeting the Baldrige-based standards for performance excellence and continuous improvement; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Small Business Development Center continues to positively impact our State's small business economy and in five years (FY2015-2019) created 6,917 jobs, 1,026 new businesses, \$354.1 Million in capital access, and \$1.61 Billion in government procurement contracts; now therefore

BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION, IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, That we hereby set aside March 18, 2020, as "Small Business Development Center Day" in Baldwin County, Alabama, in appreciation of the Alabama Small Business Development Center's dedication and success in growing Alabama's economy, one small business at a time.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of the County of Baldwin to be affixed at the County Seat in Bay Minette, Alabama, on this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2020.

Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood Chairman	Commissioner Joe Davis, III Vice Chairman
Commissioner James E. Ball	Commissioner Charles F. Gruber