

*The State of New Hampshire*  
*By Her Excellency*  
*Margaret Wood Hassan, Governor*

*A Proclamation*

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK**  
**FEBRUARY 21 – 28, 2015**

**WHEREAS**, Entrepreneurship is vital to New Hampshire's innovation economy and future growth; and

**WHEREAS**, New Hampshire's entrepreneurial spirit is embedded in our citizen's determination to forge innovative paths forward and refusal to accept that there is a limit to what we can accomplish; and

**WHEREAS**, Innovators and entrepreneurs across the state launch companies to bring their ideas to life, create jobs, and drive economic growth; and

**WHEREAS**, Each year thousands of businesses benefit from one-on-one technical assistance and education programs offered through the Department of Resources and Economic Development and the Small Business Development Center; and

**WHEREAS**, New Hampshire is home to five outstanding business incubators that are dedicated to supporting entrepreneurs through educational programming, events, co-working space, and mentorship to ensure that they have the tools and expertise they need to be successful; and

**WHEREAS**, Fostering an atmosphere that encourages entrepreneurship will help attract and retain young talent here in New Hampshire; and

**WHEREAS**, The Live Free and Start initiative was jointly announced by the Governor's Office, the Business Finance Authority and the Department of Resources and Economic Development in June 2014 to support job creation and to make New Hampshire an even better place for innovation-based businesses to start, grow and succeed; and

**WHEREAS**, The Live Free and Start initiative is supported by the New Hampshire's first Director of Entrepreneurship and a 14-member Advisory Council comprised of accomplished high-tech business leaders and entrepreneurs from across the state. Together, they are providing strategic input and recommendations to help the state modernize the way government interacts with the business community, expand opportunities to support startup financing, and market New Hampshire as a place where innovation-based businesses can thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, New Hampshire's K-12 and higher education communities are committed to supporting the next generation of entrepreneurs by offering an array of programs, activities, and competitive events focused on entrepreneurship; and

**WHEREAS**, Events to highlight, encourage, and support entrepreneurs will take place across the state during **ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK**;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARGARET WOOD HASSAN, GOVERNOR** of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **FEBRUARY 21-28, 2015**, as **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

**WEEK** in the State of New Hampshire and encourage all business leaders and residents to observe this week with appropriate activities and opportunities to learn more about the work of entrepreneurs and how they can best be supported.

Given this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and fifteen, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and thirty-nine.

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Margaret Wood Hassan  
Governor