

This Week in Washington

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Small Businesses: The Lifeblood of the U.S. Economy

Small Businesses: Quick Facts

- Represent 99.7 percent of all employers (*Source: Committee on Small Business*).
- Employ 53 percent of the private work force (*Source: Committee on Small Business*).
- Generate between 60 and 80 percent of new jobs annually (*Source: Committee on Small Business*).
- Produce 55 percent of innovations and inventions (*Source: The Facts about Small Business: 2000, U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy, August 2000*).
- Produce more than 50 percent of private-sector output (GDP) (*Source: Small Business Answer Card, U.S. Small Business Administration, 1998*).
- The largest job creators are small businesses with one to four employees (*Source: The Facts About Small Business, SBA Office of Advocacy, August 2000*).
- 77 percent of taxpayers in the highest tax bracket are small business owners (*Source: Committee on Small Business*)

Small Businesses: Pro-Growth Policies

- Tax relief in the form of increased expensing and investment limits, providing relief to over 17 million small business owners and their employees (*Source: Committee on Small Business*).
- **Health Insurance:** Of the 41 million uninsured Americans, more than 60 percent work for small businesses that cannot afford to offer employees health care coverage:
- House passed landmark legislation allowing small businesses to band together and purchase this insurance through national associations at group rates (*Source: Committee on Small Business*).

The Face of Small Business Owners

- 7 of 10 small businesses are started with less than \$20,000 (*Source: Wells Fargo/NFIB Series on Business Starts and Stops, William J. Dennis, Jr., November 1998*).
- Between 1987 and 1997, minority-owned businesses increased by 168% (*Source: The Facts About Small Business: 2000, U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy, August 2000*).
- Over the same decade, women-owned businesses increased by 89 percent (*Source: The Facts About Small Business: 2000, U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy, August 2000*).

Today in History

1893 - The state of Colorado granted its women the right to vote.

1895 - The last spike was driven into Canada's first transcontinental railway in the mountains of British Columbia.

1916 - Jeanette Rankin of Montana became the first woman elected to the U.S. Congress.

1918 - During World War I, a false report through the United Press announced that an armistice had been signed.

1940 - The middle section of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge in Washington state collapsed during a windstorm. The suspension bridge had opened to traffic on July 1, 1940.

1944 - U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt became the first person to win a fourth term as president.

1967 - The U.S. Selective Service Commission announced that college students arrested in anti-war demonstrations would lose their draft deferments.

1973 - The U.S. Congress over-rode President Nixon's veto of the War Powers Act, which limits a chief executive's power to wage war without congressional approval.

1983 - A bomb exploded in the U.S. Capitol, no injuries.

1989 - L. Douglas Wilder won the governor's race in Virginia, becoming the first elected African-American state governor in U.S. history.

From www.on-this-day.com

This Week in Washington cont.

Support Our Troops

We are receiving numerous inquiries regarding care packages to the Marines and Sailors. These expressions of support are greatly appreciated by the men and women of our country. The following are organizations that are sending care packages.

Read USPS Press Release - [OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM MAILING TIPS](http://www.usmc-mccs.org/News/deploy/OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM MAILING TIPS.pdf) at <http://www.usmc-mccs.org/News/deploy/OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM MAILING TIPS.pdf>

For the latest information about **Deployed Marines** try this link:
<http://www.usmc-mccs.org/News/deploy/supporttroops.asp>

Send 110v single phase **air conditioners or heaters** to our troops in Iraq at <http://www.operationac.com/index.htm>

Donate a **calling card** to help keep servicemembers in touch with their families at **Operation Uplink** at <http://www.operationuplink.org/>

Send a greeting via e-mail through **Operation Dear Abby** at <http://anyservicemember.navy.mil/> or www.OperationDearAbby.net

Sign a virtual thank you card at the **Defend America** web site at <http://www.defendamerica.mil/nmam.html>

Make a donation to one of the military relief societies:

- **Army Emergency Relief** at <http://www.aerhq.org/>
- **Navy/Marine Relief Society** at <http://www.nmcrs.org/>
- **Air Force Aid Society** at <http://www.afas.org/>
- **Coast Guard Mutual Assistance** at <http://www.cgmahq.org/>

Donate to "**Operation USO Care Package**" at <http://www.usometrodc.org/care1.html>

Support the **American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services** at <http://www.redcross.org/services/afes/>

Volunteer at a **VA Hospital** to honor veterans who bore the lamp of freedom in past conflicts at <http://www.va.gov/vetsday/>

Donate to "**Operation USO Care Package**" at <http://www.usocares.org/home.htm>

The **Gift of Groceries** program at <http://www.commissaries.com/certifichack/index.htm> helps meet the family needs of our Guard and Reserve troops fighting the war on terrorism.

Reach out to military families in your community, especially those with a loved one overseas.

The support and generosity of the American people has touched the lives of many servicemembers, over 300,000 of whom are deployed overseas.

Information provided by <http://www.usmc-mccs.org/news/deploy/supporttroops.asp>