



ALABAMA SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION
2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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I. LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

The Honorable Kay Ivey
Governor of the State of Alabama
State Capitol
Montgomery, Alabama

Dear Governor Ivey:

On behalf of the Alabama Small Business Commission (the Commission), we are pleased to present the 2018 summary report of the activities, recommendations, and accomplishments of the Commission.

In the fourth year of the Commission, members continued to debate issues and consider new and existing opportunities to promote small business success. The Commission presented legislative recommendations and supported executive branch initiatives designed for the benefit of the small business community. With ongoing support from the Commission members, the Legislature passed numerous legislative proposals supporting small business owners and their employees.

Atlas Alabama, the state's small business website, continued to serve small businesses in Alabama by providing them a wide range of information in a central location that is easy to navigate. Atlas Alabama partnered closely with the Alabama Department of Revenue to promote the website. The Alabama Department of Revenue promoted the website at seminars and by listing it on their own website. Atlas Alabama received a full-scale redesign to make the website more user-centric. In addition to providing landing pages for all of Alabama's counties, Atlas Alabama contains a landing page for over 450 municipalities.

The overwhelming majority of the Commission members will complete their service at the end of 2018. We are honored to have served Alabama's small business community and we appreciate the confidence and trust you have placed in our efforts. As you know, the Commission operates at no cost to the tax payer and the members receive no compensation for their service. Thank you for your review of the accomplishments we have made this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Elebash

Rosemary Elebash, Chair
Alabama Small Business Commission and Advisory Committee

II. MEMBERS OF THE ALABAMA SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Small Business Commission Members

Beau Holmes, *Owner, Quantum Logistics, LLC*

Bill Youngblood, *Owner, Youngblood Real Estate*

Curtis Richardson, *President, C & J Electrical Service, LLC*

Donna Kerr, *Owner, Robbie's of Fayette*

Dwight Gamble, *President and CEO, HND First Bank*

Edward Wayne Bassett, *Partner, Beck's Turf*

Jheovanny Gomez, *Co-Owner, Jalapenos Restaurant*

John L. Mitchell, Jr., *Principal, Mitchell Nissan*

Joseph Ogelsby, *Owner, Monroe Scrap Material, Inc.*

Keith Kelley, *Agent, Harris McKay Realty / Century 21*

Krista Conlin, *Principal, KC Projects, LLC*

Lee R. Henderson, *Owner, Henderson Investments, LLC*

Lisa Patterson, *CPA and Principal, Patterson-Prince & Associates*

Lynne Frakes, *COO, Cable Television of East Alabama; President, RM Greene, Inc.*

Paul Hutcheson, *Owner, Hutcheson Construction*

Peter "Greg" Gregerson, Jr., *Owner, Gregerson's Foods*

Rosemary Elebash, *Alabama State Director, National Federation of Independent Business*

Senator Paul Sanford, *Owner, Little Paul's Barbecue*

Stacia Robinson, *Principal, Benechoice Companies*

Judy Ryals, *President and CEO, Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau*

Brian Roth, *CFO, IndusTREE Timber Inc.*

Stinson Ellis, *Food Safety Manager, Priester's Pecans*

Les Letlow, *Principal, The Letlow Company, LLC*

Charlotte Meadows, *Co-Owner, Alabama Allergy and Asthma Clinic, PC*

Tripp Powell, *President and Owner, Kuykendall and Powell Oil Co. Inc.*

Representative Ritchie Whorton, *Co-Owner, All Star Pools*

Small Business Advisory Committee Members

Fitzgerald Washington, *Commissioner, Alabama Department of Labor*

George Buchanan, *Executive Vice President, Regions Financial Corp.*

Greg Canfield, *Secretary, Alabama Department of Commerce*

Jeremy Arthur, *President and CEO, Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama*

Jerry Mitchell, *President and CEO, North Alabama African American Chamber of Commerce*

Kenneth Boswell, *Director, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs*

Jim Searcy, *Executive Director, Economic Development Association of Alabama*

Vernon Barnett, *Commissioner, Alabama Department of Revenue*

Ken Smith, *Executive Director, Alabama League of Municipalities*

Jimmy Baker, *Chancellor, Alabama Community College System*

Nichelle Nix, *Director, Governor's Office of Minority Affairs*

Paulette Risher, *Chief Programs Officer, Still Serving Veterans*

Sonny Brasfield, *Executive Director, Association of County Commissions of Alabama*

Arleen Alexander, *Government Relations Manager, Alabama Department of Revenue*

Baker Allen, *Office of Governor Kay Ivey, Economic Policy Advisor*

Shane F. Kearney, *Economic Development Manager, Alabama Power*

Boone Kinard, *Special Assistant to Chancellor of Alabama Community College System, Government Affairs*

Eddie Postell, *Manager of the Office of Small Business Advocacy, Alabama Department of Commerce*

III. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Voice of Small Business Owners

On September 15, 2014, Executive Order 47 established the Alabama Small Business Commission (the Commission). In the 2015 legislative session, Act No. 2015-450 codified the Alabama Small Business Commission and the Alabama Small Business Advisory Committee.

The Commission serves as an advisory body in formulating policies, encouraging innovation, and discussing issues critical to the economic growth of small and independent businesses and their interest in the State of Alabama. Furthermore, the Commission promotes policies to assist new business start-ups and expansion of existing businesses. The Commission meets quarterly and produces an annual report which is submitted to the Governor.

In accordance with Section 41-29-240 of the Code Alabama, the Alabama Small Business Commission is obligated to:

- Formulate policies encouraging innovation of small business in the state;
- Discuss issues critical to the economic growth of small, independent businesses and their interests that will encourage the formation of and foster the growth of small businesses in the state;
- Advise the Department of Commerce in formulating and promoting policies relating to small businesses;
- Act as an advocate for small businesses and the entrepreneurs who work to create opportunities for new small businesses and sustain those that are already in existence; and,
- Promote policies to assist new business start-ups and expansion of existing businesses.

The Alabama Small Business Advisory Committee was created to serve as a technical and informational source to the Alabama Small Business Commission and meets at the call of the chair.

Current Small Business Environment

Based upon comparative research among other states, Alabama has a relatively positive environment for starting and operating small businesses. Numerous national ranking and surveys of business “friendliness” consider Alabama’s tax environment, ease of hiring new employees, legal system, and other key factors as conducive for small business success.

The U.S. Small Business Administration’s Office of Advocacy’s 2018 Small Business Profile for Alabama provides a summary of small business in the state:

- Alabama is home to 392,939 small businesses;
- Small businesses represent 99.4 percent of all businesses in Alabama and employ about 47.5 percent of the state’s private workforce;
- Small businesses with fewer than 100 employees have the largest share of small business employment;
- The three Alabama industries with the majority of small business jobs are: health care and social assistance, accommodation and food services, and retail trade;
- Over 23.4 percent of Alabama’s small businesses are minority owned; and,
- Small businesses made up 80.4 percent of Alabama exporting companies and generated 15.5 percent of Alabama’s total known export value.

The state’s overall business climate has seen improvement throughout the year. Alabama’s unemployment rate remains near a historic low at 4.0 percent in November 2018.

Small Business Interaction with State Government

Small businesses understand that many of the regulations affecting business activity are managed by the executive branch agencies through their policies and management. Licensing, permitting, and tax collection are all functions of the executive branch and its agencies, which the Governor manages directly. These entities interact with small businesses on a regular basis. Processes and procedures guide state agencies interactions between government and small businesses. It is imperative that agencies and their employees work smoothly and consistently with small businesses.

It is also important for executive agencies to enable small business development by encouraging growth and success rather than undermining it with the proverbial “red tape,” onerous rules and regulations, lack of transparency, accountability, and customer service. To meet demand, small business changes with the economy. For this reason, agency personnel must constantly evaluate policies and procedures to ensure that the costs of regulation and compliance do not exceed the benefit of the intended purpose.

Finally, the Commission members are often leaders in their local business communities and can provide “two-way traffic” for information and communications to the Governor. Members already do an excellent job of communicating with local media, Chambers of Commerce, trade associations, and other business networks to share updates and accomplishments. They also use these networks to gather feedback and provide input on policies and regulations affecting small businesses at the Commission meetings. These diverse, statewide, and informal networks will continue to provide valuable perspectives on what small businesses experience around the state and on an ongoing basis.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND APPROACH

The Alabama Small Business Commission (the Commission) was created in 2014 through Executive Order 47 and codified in 2015. The Commission is comprised of direct owners and managers of small businesses from around the state. Currently, the Commission has 26 members and is the first known entity throughout the United States. A Commission member is appointed for a two-year term with the option to be reappointed for an additional two-year term.

A small business is defined as a private company headquartered in Alabama with at least one full-time employee but generally fewer than 50 employees. Other governmental entities, particularly at the federal level, use numbers as high as 500 employees to define a small business. In Alabama, more than ninety-nine percent of all private companies have fewer than five hundred employees, so that common metric was not considered a useful, distinguishing characteristic.

To facilitate the Commission's mission, Act 2015-450 also created the Alabama Small Business Advisory Committee (the Advisory Committee) which serves to provide technical and information sources. The Advisory Committee does not vote on the Commission's recommendations but does provide valuable input on matters relating to state government practices, existing policies and procedures, and local government relationships. In addition to providing background information and technical assistance, the Advisory Committee members provide guidance on current practices, proposed recommendations, and information and data needed to bolster decision-making by the Commission members. The Advisory Committee members are invited to all meetings and serve as a tremendous resource to the Commission.

The Office of Small Business Advocacy within the Department of Commerce houses the Small Business Commission. Housing the Commission within the Department of Commerce, a cabinet-level agency, allows the commission to effectively relay findings and recommendations that improve economic and business development to the Governor. This organizational change did not alter the goals or function of the Commission from when it was only an executive order. Including the Commission in the Code of Alabama secures the Commission's future as an executive branch entity and a vital contributor to small business development and policy in Alabama.

The Commission and the Advisory Committee meet quarterly either in-person or by teleconference. If necessary, they will meet in smaller subcommittees on an as-needed basis. All meetings are posted publicly on Open Meetings through the Secretary of State's Office. The majority of the meetings were held by teleconference for ease of access. However, site visits have and will continue to be used for special programs, tours, and educating members on small business opportunities, challenges, and special topics.

V. INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Legislative Action

The responsibilities of the Commission are to formulate, advocate, and support policies that will positively impact small businesses in Alabama. To positively impact small businesses, the Commission focuses on encouraging new business creation and promoting the growth and success of existing businesses. Occasionally, advocating for small business requires recommending legislation and executive action that allows business creation and growth to thrive. In 2018, the Commission actively developed and voted to support legislation designed to benefit small businesses in the state. Below are summaries of the Commission's legislative accomplishments.

- **Traveling Through Taxing Jurisdiction**

HB 107 by Rep. Paul Lee and Sen. Paul Sanford

Provides that a business license is not required for a person traveling through a municipality on business if the person is not operating a branch office or doing business in the municipality.

Final Result: HB 107 passed and was enacted as Act 2018-411.

- **Tax Rate Notification**

SB 111 by Sen. Paul Sanford and Rep. Ritchie Whorton

The legislation requires local taxing jurisdiction to notify the Department of Revenue 60 days in advance of implementing a tax change. In addition, allow relief from taxpayers from liability for incorrect tax collections if errors are made in reliance on rate information provided by the Department of Revenue on behalf of local governments. Currently, the notification is 30 days and taxpayers are held liable for filing a published incorrect tax rate.

Final Result: SB 111 passed and was enacted as Act 2018-150.

- **Administrative Rule Change Notification**

SB 5 by Sen. Paul Samford and Rep. Paul Lee

Requires state agencies promulgating rules and regulations to include notification to the Alabama Legislative Council that the proposed rule change is being litigated in court.

Final Result: SB 5 passed and was enacted as Act 2018-139.

- **Unemployed Veteran's Tax Credit**

HB 83 by Rep. Connie Rowe and Sen Phil Williams

Amends current law to provide a \$1,000 tax credit for hiring an unemployed veteran. Each unemployed veteran would be paid \$14.00 an hour on a full-time basis. The credit is available to the employer when the unemployed veteran completes 12 months of service.

Final Result: HB 83 passed and was enacted as Act 2018-194.

- **Alabama Assistance / Service Animal Housing**

HB 198 by Rep. Matt Friday and Sen. Cam Ward

Requires documentation from a medical provider of the need for an assistance animal or service animal in housing. The assistance animal must qualify as a service animal under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Final Result: HB 198 passed and was enacted as Act 2018-235.

- **Commending Small Businesses in Alabama**

HR 192 by Rep. Jim Carns

A house resolution that commends the Small Business Commission for their outstanding contribution to the state.

Executive Agency Action

Working with the Governor and her Cabinet, including several members of the Advisory Committee, the Commission successfully designed and proposed initiatives in 2018 that were implemented by the executive branch without requiring legislative action. The Commission considers these to be prime opportunities to impact small business success with direct executive action in a variety of ways including communications and public relations, agency protocols and policies, and specific programmatic opportunities. This year, the Commission pursued the initiatives as outlined below.

- **Bill Signing for HB107**

To recognize the passage of House Bill 107, Governor Kay Ivey held a ceremonial bill signing in the Old House Chamber in the Capitol. House Bill 107 prohibits cities from requiring businesses to have a business license before they can pass through their jurisdictions for work. The signing featured Governor Ivey, Rosemary Elebash, Chair-Alabama Small Business Commission, Representative Donnie Chesteen, and Representative Paul Lee

- **“Small Business Saturday” Proclamation**

The Commission worked with the Governor and her staff to promote “Small Business Saturday” in Alabama, which was November 24, 2018, the day after Black Friday. The Governor signed a proclamation recognizing this date as Small Business Saturday in Alabama in an effort to encourage Alabamians to support and patronize small and independent businesses.

- **“Apprenticeship Week” Proclamation**

The Commission worked with the Governor, her staff, and the Alabama Department of Commerce’s Workforce Development Division to promote “Apprenticeship Week” in Alabama, which was November 11 through November 17, 2018. The Governor signed a proclamation recognizing this week as Apprenticeship Week in Alabama to highlight the creation of Apprenticeship Alabama, an entity that will provide the leadership and infrastructure to ensure the advancement and expansion of Registered Apprenticeships by assisting employers with access to the tools and human capital needed to advance workforce and economic development.

Other Activities

Not all Commission activity requires legislative or executive action. The Commission members met several times this year to discuss and address a variety of issues important to the small business community and to benefit from educational presentations. Members also continue to be active in their communities, sharing ideas for business development and employment growth as well as advancing small business policy initiatives. The following are initiatives and events of note to the Commission:

- ***Atlas Alabama***

Atlas Alabama (www.atlasalabama.gov) is a free online comprehensive resource for entrepreneurs and small business owners throughout the state. Atlas Alabama provides resources for Alabamians interested in starting or expanding a small business. The website launched in the fall of 2014 and works in partnership with the Commission to facilitate and promote small business development.



Charting the course to small business success

The Atlas Alabama website successfully serves Alabama's small business community. Not only does the website provide important information, it easily connects small businesses to that information in one place. Over the last four years, Atlas Alabama averages 1,100 unique visitors a month. During those visits, users are viewing an average of more than two pages per session. The most visited pages on Atlas Alabama are State Agencies & Departments, Plan, Licenses & Taxes, and ***Get Started***.

In 2018, Atlas Alabama underwent a full-scale redesign to make the website more user-centric. Information was reorganized to align with the different business stages: plan, launch, manage, and grow. A highlight of the website, landing pages takes a user to a webpage that provides business-centric information unique to a county or municipality. Atlas Alabama now contains a landing page for every county and 463 municipalities. Additionally, the quick links and state agency pages feature over 15 agencies and agency programs. These resources combine for approximately 2,000 business resource links, encompassing a wide variety of business-related topics.

Atlas Alabama aims to make helpful and informative resources readily available for small businesses. The website continually updates the services available to meet the changing needs of small businesses. Atlas Alabama continues to evolve as new features are added and greater integration with state and local resources grows.

- **Bicentennial Celebration**

Alabama is celebrating its bicentennial of becoming a state over three years: 2017, 2018, and 2019. The celebrations will increase tourism as people travel across the state to commemorate Alabama's history. The Commission has worked with the Alabama Bicentennial Commission to promote the events and exhibitions. The Commission provides direct communication to small businesses about the various activities.

- **Alabama Power Rate Reduction**

In 2018, the Alabama Public Service Commission voted to lower power rates as a result of the federal tax cuts. All small businesses rely on energy to power their operations. Also, a decrease in consumer power rates increases customers purchasing power. The Commission was supportive of the Public Service Commission's actions.

- **Commission Meetings**

The Commission met five times in 2018 through a combination of teleconferences and two on-site meetings. Three commission meetings were conducted by teleconference with the other two meetings held in Montgomery. Each meeting focused on current issues facing small businesses and provided the opportunity for members of the Advisory Committee and outside organizations to present relevant information to members.

The first quarter meeting was conducted by teleconference. The focus of the meeting was to review the Commission's legislative agenda for 2018. Rosemary Elebash, Chair, provided a review of the six bills that made up the legislative agenda. The quarterly meeting was held during the legislative session and she provided an update of how the various bills were moving through the legislative process. The meeting concluded with discussion of bills that were not part of the Commission's legislative agenda but would impact small businesses in the state.

In addition to the quarterly commission meetings, the Commission held an ad hoc meeting, Alabama Small Business Commission Legislative Day. The Commission members visited the State House to watch the passage of legislation on the Commission's legislative agenda. While observing the legislative process from the House Gallery, the Commission members were recognized by the legislature.

Via teleconference, the Commission held their second quarter meeting. Two speakers presented at the meeting. The first speaker, Secretary of State John Merrill, explained the new filing system for domestic LLCs and domestic business corporations. At the conclusion of his presentation, he encouraged the Commission members to contact their local probate judge to participate in the streamlined domestic business corporation filing process. Rebecca Royen, the second speaker, provided an update on the Atlas Alabama website. Following the presentation, the Commission members discussed the legislative successes from the 2018 legislative session. The meeting concluded with a vote on supporting legislation for the 2019 legislative session.

The Commission chose to hold its third quarter meeting by teleconference. The meeting featured three speakers. The first speaker, Senate Pro Tem Del Marsh, talked about the business-friendly nature of the 2018 legislative session. He noted that the 2019 legislative session will focus on education and infrastructure. Additionally, he said the Commission's unemployment bill will be a priority for the next legislative session. Katherine Roberson, Deputy Attorney General, provided insight into the state's new data breach law, Act 2018-396. The law's focus is not designed to punish business, the penalties focus on companies that conceal the breach. Additional information can be found on the Attorney General's website. Rebecca Royen provided an update on the Atlas Alabama website. Her update focused on the amount of traffic the website is experiencing and the redesign.

The Commission met in Montgomery for the final meeting of 2018. The meeting featured two speakers and discussion about the proposed 2019 legislative agenda. The Chair of the Commission, Rosemary Elebash, welcomed the members and summarized the Commission's successes over the last four years. The first speaker, Alex Flachsbarth, spoke about Opportunity Zones that were created within the federal tax bill. Alabama has a zone in each of the 67 counties. He explained how communities and individuals can take advantage of these investment opportunities. Steve Spencer, President of Economic Development Partnership of Alabama, gave a presentation on the upcoming 2020 Census. He encouraged Commission members to promote participation in the census within their community and with their elected officials. Census numbers determine the number of congressional seats in each state and the amount of federal funding for education, infrastructure, health care and other federal programs. Rosemary Elebash concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and recognizing members who have concluded their service on the Commission.

VI. NOTES ON IMPLEMENTATION AND RESULTS

Legislative successes are often defined by whether a piece of legislation passed or failed. The impact on small business often lies with the state’s execution of a specific policy or procedure, or how tax incentives or regulatory burdens change over time. These policy changes ultimately affect small business profitability, hiring decisions, capital investments, and expansion plans. One factor that is often overlooked or underestimated is the impact on future generations of potential entrepreneurs. For example, does a policy or regulation encourage or discourage new business creation? Does it raise existing hurdles to new business formation or lower them?

Given the nature of legislation today, many detailed policies may impact only subsets of the small business segment in the Alabama economy. A potential new law may be vitally important to a specific industry and then have no impact whatsoever on another industry. Furthermore, changes to the small business environment on a macro level may be felt years down the line, given the natural growth and impact of incentives and policy changes on businesses over time.

For these reasons, it is often difficult to link statewide metrics – across the entire small business community – with individual pieces of legislation. The Commission strives to identify policy and program initiatives that will have far-reaching effects on small businesses statewide. However, the Commission recognizes that a piece of legislation with a narrow scope can have a broad impact on the business environment. Additionally, it is sometimes necessary to pursue multiple pieces of legislation with a narrow scope to improve the overall business climate.

Aside from the success of specific program and policy implementations, and their related measure, the Commission anticipates that the Governor and State of Alabama will ultimately see important improvements across several key statewide metrics, including:

- Increasing contributions from small business to the state gross domestic product;
- Increases in the number of small businesses formed each year;
- Increasing employee headcount;
- Increasing number of small business hires; and,
- Decrease in small business “deaths” (closures, bankruptcies).

Advisory Committee participation has helped the Commission to access such information at the state level and will continue to do so. The Labor Market Information Division at the Department of Labor tracks many of these metrics and in even more detail by industry and geography.

A significant advantage of the Commission’s status as a permanent, codified entity is that members will have the opportunity to see the results of implemented policies over time and act upon the results. This should place a renewed emphasis on the importance of establishing and monitoring metrics for success.

VII. AREAS OF INTEREST FOR 2019

Recommended Legislation for 2019

At its fourth quarter meeting, the Commission discussed its legislative priorities for 2019. The legislative recommendations for 2019 are a combination of bills the Commission supported in the prior legislative session that did not pass and new legislation that expands upon the Commission's prior efforts. The 2019 legislative session begins the new quadrennium which brings with it a new class of freshmen legislators. In addition to advocating for legislative change, the members of the Commission will need to educate the new legislative members about the Commission and its mission to serve small business. Below are summaries of the Commission's legislative recommendations for the 2019 legislative session.

- **Unemployment Benefits**

Reduces the maximum number of weeks that unemployment compensation benefits are payable from 26 weeks to the lesser of 14 weeks or a maximum of 20 weeks, depending upon the average unemployment rate calculated by the U.S. Department of Labor. Increase the weekly benefit amount from \$265 to \$275. If a recipient is enrolled and making satisfactory progress in a job training or certification program approved by the Alabama Department of Labor, the recipient will receive an additional five weeks after all regular benefits have exhausted.

- **Penalties for Attorney Who Encourages Litigation**

The bill would increase the penalty from \$1,000 to \$10,000 and imprisonment from six months to one year in the county jail or hard labor for an attorney who gives money to a person for encouraging that person to bring legal action against another.

- **Service Dog Certification Required**

Expands the current law to permit a business to require proof that an animal is a certified service animal. Misrepresentation of an animal as an assistance animal will result in penalties and a second offense will be a Class B misdemeanor. Small business owners have complained about customers presenting certificates printed from the Internet stating their animal is a service dog. Currently, if a business challenges a customer, a customer can threaten to sue or hire a law firm to send a "demand letter" for damages up to \$5,000. Restaurants, retail shops, etc. are faced with the growing trend of animals in their establishments.

VIII. CONCLUSION

As the Small Business Commission concludes its fourth full year of operation, it continues to pursue legislation and initiatives that improve the business climate of Alabama. The Commission developed a series of recommendations and successfully contributed to the passing and signing into law five legislative priorities.

The Commission looks forward to 2019 and the opportunity to address new small business priorities in Alabama. As prescribed in statute, members of the Small Business Commission can serve two years with the option to be reappointed for an additional two-year term. At the end of 2018, the majority of the Commission members appointment will expire without the ability to be reappointed. This will require the Governor to appoint new members to the Commission.

The Commission will continue to meet regularly in person or by teleconference and may, if needed, organize subcommittees to focus on key opportunities and issues for the year. Since the business environment is always evolving, the Commission will continue to develop the Atlas Alabama website with more advanced functions, additional information, and new services. Atlas Alabama strives to be the comprehensive and authoritative site for Alabama small business resources and information.

The Commission is confident and committed to the fact that small businesses will lead the way with economic growth and employment opportunities for the citizens of Alabama in rural and urban communities. The Alabama Small Business Commission and Advisory Committee members appreciate the opportunity to serve the Governor and the citizens of Alabama.

IX. APPENDIX

In 2018, the Commission developed legislative recommendations and supported numerous executive branch initiatives. In some cases, these actions resulted in, or contributed to, formal actions by state government; others resulted in work product of note. For that reason, the Commission has assembled examples for your review and records.

In the attached Appendix, please find the documents listed below:

- A. Executive Order 47 – Establishing the SBC
- B. Act 2015-450 – Codifying the Small Business Commission
- C. SBC Legislation Codified in the 2018 Legislative Session
 - 1. Traveling Through Taxing Jurisdiction – Act 2018-411
 - 2. Tax Rate Notification – Act 2018-150
 - 3. Administrative Rule Change Notification – Act 2018-139
 - 4. Unemployment Veteran’s Tax Credit – Act 2018-194
 - 5. Alabama Assistance/Service Animal Housing Act – Act 2018-235
- D. Executive Proclamations
 - 1. Small Business Saturday Proclamation
 - 2. Apprenticeship Week Proclamation
- E. Minutes from The Commission’s Quarterly Meetings
 - 1. First Quarter Meeting Minutes – 30 January 2018
 - 2. Second Quarter Meeting Minutes – 30 June 2018
 - 3. Third Quarter Meeting Minutes – 18 September 2018
 - 4. Fourth Quarter Meeting Minutes – 14 November 2018
- F. Small Business Day
 - 1. Small Business Commission Legislative Agenda
 - 2. Small Business Commission Legislative Packet
 - 3. Small Business Day Resolution