

Proclamation

Commemorating New York REAL

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this New York State Senator to support organizations such as New York REAL that advocate the goals and ideals of National Entrepreneurship Week and encourage the implementation of entrepreneurship education programs in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, REAL is an acronym for Rural through Action Learning; REAL Entrepreneurship is a hands-on program that develops entrepreneurial traits, knowledge, and skills; and

WHEREAS, REAL guides participants through the process of planning, creating and operating small businesses of their own design; and

WHEREAS, According to the Department of Labor, most of the new jobs created throughout the United States in the past decade have come from the creative efforts of entrepreneurs and small businesses, which have been expanding and advancing technology and fueling the recent growth in the economy; and

WHEREAS, Entrepreneurs have been the source of economic innovation throughout the history of the Nation, and the entire society has been improved because of the new ways of doing things that have been brought about by people who market their ideas; and

WHEREAS, Economically independent entrepreneurs are engaged citizens who work to improve the economic environment in their local communities, to provide better opportunities for businesses to operate and a better environment for the human resources they need to advance their business dreams; and

WHEREAS, 70 percent of high school students want to become entrepreneurs, and entrepreneurial skills will assist students in the future regardless of whether they work in a business owned by others or run their own business; and

WHEREAS, The high interest of students in becoming entrepreneurs and the critical role entrepreneurs have played in advancing the national economy make it vital for the Nation's schools to provide students with training in the skills which will enable them to become the entrepreneurs of the future; and

WHEREAS, Exposing students to the types of market-driven problems faced by entrepreneurs is an excellent example of how educators can use problem-based learning strategies to prepare students for the situations they will encounter in the future; and

WHEREAS, Entrepreneurship education provides exactly the type of academic engagement of all students promoted by the National High School Alliance, based on relevant real-world contexts that build on community assets, allow participation in workplace-based learning, and include performance-based assessments; and

WHEREAS, Entrepreneurship education has been shown to be especially effective in closing the achievement gap between minority students and others in public schools; and

WHEREAS, Students who participate in entrepreneurship education programs have better attendance records, perform better on core subjects, and have lower dropout rates than those who do not participate in these programs; and

WHEREAS, The Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education has developed and nurtured a lifelong entrepreneurship education model to encourage students' awareness of entrepreneurship as a career option throughout their years of school and to assist entrepreneurs as they implement their entrepreneurial ideas; and

WHEREAS, the Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education has lead the initiative to broadly define the field of entrepreneurship through 403 performance indicators to guide the delivery of entrepreneurship education in support of the lifelong learning model; and

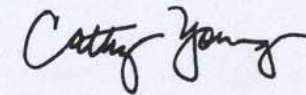
WHEREAS, Through the initiative to observe annually National Entrepreneurship Week, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education, and partner organizations promote awareness of the contributions of entrepreneurs as innovators, positive forces in the economy, and important resources for improving communities as places to live and work; and

WHEREAS, National Entrepreneurship Week will focus on the innovative ways in which entrepreneurship education can bring together the core academic, technical, and problem solving skills essential for future entrepreneurs and successful workers in future workplaces; now, therefore, by way of this proclamation,

SENATOR CATHARINE M. YOUNG commends New York REAL for their numerous initiatives to promote entrepreneurship, and for their hard work in building a culture supportive of entrepreneurship that is critical to improving the economic viability of New York's rural communities, and a copy of this Proclamation, suitably engrossed, should be submitted to New York REAL.

Proclaimed October 24, 2006

By order of Senator Catharine M. Young,



Senator Catharine M. Young

