

WHEREAS, the character and greatness of our City rest in great part on freedom of choice and competition – the basic elements of our free enterprise system. Americans have always been an ingenious and courageous people who accept the challenges of competition and cling tenaciously to their independence;

WHEREAS, the small businessmen and businesswomen of Greenville work hard to retain that independence and are rewarded with success and pride in ownership. It is their dedication and their efforts in the marketplace, which provide us with a healthy, vital economy, free of excessive government intervention; and

WHEREAS, our small businessmen and businesswomen also ensure that quality goods are provided to meet consumer needs. Providing quality goods for consumers strengthens confidence in the marketplace and preserves consumer initiative and freedom of choice within the economic system;

NOW, *THEREFORE*, I, Allen M. Thomas, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week of April 30 – May 4, 2012, as

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

in Greenville and urge all of our citizens to recognize and commend the efforts of our small businessmen and businesswomen in preserving the freedom, initiative, and stability of our economy.

This 27th day of April, 2012.

Allen M. Thomas, Mayor