

March 11, 2008

Greetings Friends:

On behalf of the Great State of Kansas, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Annual Existing and Emerging Businesses of the Year Awards Ceremony hosted by the Kansas Small Business Development Center. This is a special event as we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Kansas Small Business Center and the outstanding entrepreneurial spirit exemplified by today's award recipients.

Small businesses are an important part of our economy and make up the fabric of our Kansas communities. They are vital to Kansas' growth and prosperity - generating ideas and progressive technology that was once thought impossible. Every business in existence today - large or small - was born out of the dream of an entrepreneur. I thank the Kansas Small Business Center for its dedication to providing small businesses with the resources they need to be successful.

I'd also like to commend the distinguished recipients of today's awards and wish them many more years of success. It is the dedication and resiliency of businesses like yours that keep Kansas moving forward.

Again, congratulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Sebelius". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathleen Sebelius
Governor of the State of Kansas

KGS: bs