

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. III

2 BY MILLER, WHITEAD, WENDT, TJEPKES,

3 MERTZ, and EICHHORN

4 A Concurrent Resolution urging federal funding for
5 small business development centers.

6 WHEREAS, the small business development centers
7 (SBDCs) were created in 1980 by federal legislation
8 and are charged with providing management and
9 technical assistance to potential and existing
10 business owners; and

11 WHEREAS, the vast network of SBDCs provides the
12 state with a wide range of resources to use in
13 assisting clients; and

14 WHEREAS, in the fiscal year 2005, SBDCs in Iowa
15 provided 2,597 clients with 119,627 technical
16 assistance hours; and

17 WHEREAS, SBDC-counseled businesses have grown 97
18 percent faster than non-SBDC-assisted businesses; and

19 WHEREAS, the mission of the SBDCs is to provide the
20 highest quality management assistance as a way of
21 ensuring sound guidance for aspiring and established
22 entrepreneurs and job stability and creation; and

23 WHEREAS, increased state and federal revenues for
24 the reopening of SBDCs in Fort Dodge and Sioux City
25 are badly needed; and

26 WHEREAS, most individuals or groups considering
27 starting or expanding a business need professional
28 assistance and the closing of SBDC offices in Fort
29 Dodge and Sioux City hurt not only the expansion of
30 small businesses in those communities, but the regions

HCR III

1 that they served; and

2 WHEREAS, the SBDCs in Fort Dodge and Sioux City
3 would be a part of the network of 14 SBDCs throughout
4 the state and a network of over 1,100 SBDCs throughout
5 the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, the SBDCs in Fort Dodge and Sioux City
7 have provided counseling and outreach services to
8 north central and northwest Iowa and have been
9 responsible for thousands of hours of counseling and
10 training which is important in the region surrounding
11 Fort Dodge where diversification of the economic base
12 is vitally important, especially in light of the
13 pending loss of jobs at the Electrolux plant in
14 Webster City; NOW THEREFORE,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
16 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Iowa General Assembly
17 recognizes the importance of the reopening of the
18 SBDCs in Fort Dodge and Sioux City; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the United States
20 Congress is encouraged to maintain or increase the
21 levels of funding appropriated to help maintain
22 existing SBDCs in Iowa and reopen the SBDCs in Fort
23 Dodge and Sioux City; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
25 Resolution be sent to the President of the United
26 States, the President of the United States Senate, the
27 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
28 and members of Iowa's congressional delegation.

29

30