

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the government of the City of Burlington, Vermont, believes that small businesses are the backbone of our economy and the glue that holds communities together; according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are currently 28 million small businesses in the United States, they represent more than 99 percent of American companies, create two-thirds of the net new jobs, and generate half of private gross domestic product; and

**WHEREAS**, small businesses employ half of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, 93 percent of US consumers believe it's important to support the local small businesses that they value in their community, and 89 percent agree that locally-owned, independent businesses contribute positively through taxes and jobs; and

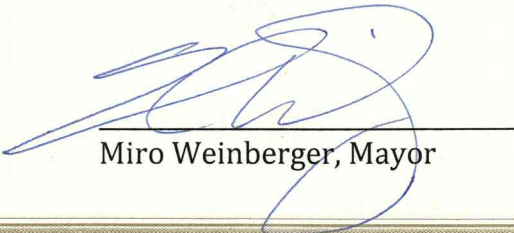
**WHEREAS**, the City of Burlington, Vermont, supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, advocacy groups and public and private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Miro Weinberger, Mayor of the City of Burlington, do hereby proclaim that November 24, 2012 be declared

### SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

And **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that I urge the residents of our community, and communities across the country, to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

  
Miro Weinberger, Mayor

