STATE OF ARKANSAS
House of Representatives

Arkansas House Newsletter

November 25, 2026

Supporting Small Business



As the holiday shopping season gets underway, Arkansans have an opportunity to make a meaningful difference in their communities simply by choosing where they spend their money.

Whether it’s purchasing a gift from a locally owned boutique, dining at a neighborhood restaurant, or visiting a family-owned hardware store, every dollar spent at a small business helps support local jobs, families, and communities.

Arkansas is home to more than 280,000 small businesses. They account for more than 99% of all businesses in our state and employ nearly half of our workforce. These businesses are more than storefronts. They’re the sponsors of our Little League teams, supporters of local schools, and neighbors who step up when their communities need help.

The Arkansas General Assembly recognizes the important role small businesses play in our economy. In recent years, we’ve worked to create an environment where businesses can start, grow, and succeed. That includes lowering individual and corporate income tax rates, reducing certain unemployment insurance costs

for employers, expanding apprenticeship opportunities, and strengthening workforce training programs. We've also worked to better connect Arkansans with available jobs and help businesses find the skilled employees they need.

These efforts are part of an ongoing commitment to supporting entrepreneurs, encouraging investment, and strengthening our local economies.

But supporting small businesses isn't just the responsibility of policymakers. It's something every Arkansan can participate in, especially during the holidays.

When you shop locally, you're doing more than checking a name off your gift list. You're helping a business owner make payroll, supporting a neighbor's livelihood, and keeping more economic opportunity in your community.

And the impact extends well beyond the holiday season. Small businesses create jobs, invest in our neighborhoods, and give our communities much of their unique character.

This holiday season, we encourage you to shop small, dine local, and remember the businesses that make our communities special.

Because when small businesses succeed, Arkansas communities succeed.