

Moulton will be all business in Lynn



FILE PHOTO By THOR JOURGENSEN

LYNN — Congress comes to City Hall on Tuesday when **U.S. Reps. Seth Moulton** and **Richard Hanna** host the **U.S. House Small Business Committee** field hearing in the City Council Chamber.

Titled “Commercializing on Innovation,” the hearing will focus on technology and innovation in small businesses and the success of the **Small Business Innovation Research** program.

“So much growth in our economy comes from small businesses,” Moulton said. “SBIR is a great example of that happening.”

Swampscott resident **Ann Eskesen** is scheduled to testify and she plans to talk in part about her role in

pioneering SBIR 30 years ago. By directing federal research and development money to businesses with 500 or fewer workers, Eskesen said SBIR spurred innovations in 1,500 Massachusetts businesses and 22,000 across the country.

Eskesen is president of Swampscott-based **Innovation Development Institute**, tracking SBIR projects.

“We have created with SBIR money the largest single concentration of technical talent anywhere,” Eskesen said. The two-hour hearing is a chance for Moulton, a Democrat, to underscore his commitment to work with House Republicans. “It’s a bipartisan hearing and another example of work that can be done across the aisle,” he said. Hanna is a New York Republican who, according to a statement released by Moulton’s office, is committed to ensuring that congress approves funding reauthorization for SBIR. “In the rapidly growing and ever-changing field of technology, it is often small firms that develop innovative technologies that become staples in the marketplace years later,” Hanna stated.

The Tuesday hearing is one of five Small Business Committee hearings planned throughout the country. **Mayor Judith Flanagan Kennedy** said she is honored City Hall is hosting one of the hearings.

“Congressman Moulton has put a lot of effort into helping the city with its economic development.” Kennedy said.

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