



February 26, 2013

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Chair
311 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable James Risch
Ranking Member
483 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Risch:

The National Small Business Association (NSBA) is pleased to support Ms. Maria Contreras-Sweet as the next Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration. Ms. Contreras-Sweet's experience as Secretary of the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, president and co-founder of Fortius Holdings, and most recently as founder and CEO of ProAmerica Bank, a Latino-owned community bank located in Los Angeles, California, provides her with both the necessary public sector managerial experience and private sector know-how to be a successful and engaged SBA Administrator.

Small businesses are America's economic engine and are the most dynamic and innovative sector of our economy. The SBA Administrator plays a critical role in promoting and facilitating access to capital, improving small business contracting opportunities, and providing much-needed emergency preparedness and disaster relief assistance to small businesses impacted by and recovering from a disaster. Accordingly, NSBA looks forward to working with Ms. Contreras-Sweet on these issues and many others that are essential to the long-term economic health and well-being of America's small business community.

On behalf of NSBA and our over 65,000 members, I would like to urge you and your colleagues to hold a confirmation vote and approve Ms. Contreras-Sweet as soon as possible. We look forward to working with you and your staff to ensure that Ms. Contreras-Sweet is approved by the Small Business Committee and subsequently by the full U.S. Senate in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd McCracken", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Todd O. McCracken
President