



December 11, 2015

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senate
506 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Vitter
United States Senate
516 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators,

On behalf of the National Small Business Association (NSBA), I am pleased to support *S. 2116, the Small Business Broadband and Emerging Information Technology Enhancement Act of 2015*. In addition to addressing the inability of some small businesses to access broadband internet, the legislation also creates the institutional infrastructure within the Small Business Administration (SBA) to meet the challenges posed by the next generation of information technology.

NSBA represents more than 65,000 small businesses from every industry and sector across every state in the country. It is dedicated to leveling the playing field and ensuring that small businesses are given the opportunity to succeed and add jobs to the economy. Broadband internet is critical to leveling the playing field; it allows small businesses access to markets throughout the country regardless of their location. This means that small businesses are not confined to their geographic region, and by expanding access to these resources within underserved communities they will greatly contribute to economic growth and job creation.

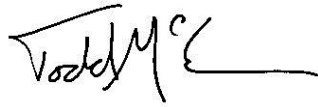
While creating the structure within SBA to provide resources for the expansion of broadband internet access, the legislation also tasks SBA with using that infrastructure on the next generation of emerging information technologies. Many small businesses do not have dedicated information technology staff to keep them abreast of the new opportunities created by the constant advances in information technology. This legislation will ensure that SBA can keep pace with these advances and remain a relevant resource for these small businesses.

While creating this infrastructure for small businesses is certainly necessary, NSBA is mindful of the ever-growing responsibilities that are placed upon SBA. NSBA is hopeful that Congress devotes adequate resources to SBA to ensure that it is able to meaningfully implement this and

all of the programs under its jurisdiction. These programs have an enormous impact on small businesses and the communities they serve.

Thank you for your leadership and foresight thus far in introducing this legislation and moving it through the Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee. I look forward to working with you to bring this legislation to the Senate floor for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd McCracken". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "M" and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Todd McCracken
President & CEO