



February 1, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

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Ramiro A. Cavazos
President and CEO

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell,

On behalf of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) and our Board of Directors, we write you to affirm our full support for the immediate confirmation of Isabel Guzman to serve in the Biden-Harris Administration as the Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). We urge you to hold a fair and swift confirmation so that the new Administration can move forward in the implementation of its strategy to rebuild the small business economy in our country.

The USHCC actively promotes the economic growth, development, and interests of more than 4.7 million Hispanic-owned businesses that, combined, contribute over \$800 billion to the American economy every year. We also serve as a platform for our nationwide network of over 250 local Hispanic chambers of commerce.

We believe immediate action must also be taken to rectify the inequities in our Government's pandemic relief programs that have kept our communities from achieving all they can as equal citizens of the United States. Having a new leader at the SBA as soon as possible will allow us to address these important issues in a timely manner. Ms. Guzman has years of experience working as Deputy Chief of Staff at the SBA during the Obama Administration, playing a leading role in executing the agency's mission to ensure the prosperity of America's more than 30 million small businesses.

The Small Business Administrator is a key member of the President's team and is a critical piece of our nation's economic recovery. Her leadership is responsible for reviving the American economy as our small business community faces an unprecedented economic threat. The SBA's hard-working employees have tirelessly provided support to small businesses in the form of technical assistance and economic support to get businesses back on their feet and build our economy back from the ground up. It is undeniable that as thousands of American jobs remain at risk every day, millions will continue to struggle, that is why our nation cannot afford a delay in our need for this type of critical leadership. American main streets, more than 9.3 million minority-owned businesses (MBEs), and aspiring entrepreneurs are waiting, and their individual economic success depends on this confirmation.

Ms. Guzman is one of the most knowledgeable small business experts in our country. Her professional identity has earned bipartisan praise, she also has deep support from our nation's Latino communities, small business advocates, and associations. Furthermore, many leading organizations have endorsed her and called for her timely confirmation. There is no time to waste on this important Senate vote and confirmation.



The USHCC in collaboration with our network of business owners, corporate leaders, chambers of commerce, and community advocates stand ready to work closely with Ms. Guzman and the U.S. Small Business Administration to ensure that our critical policy needs are considered and met for the economic revitalization, empowerment, and growth of our community. Thank you in advance for your consideration on this important matter. We look forward to your positive response and collaboration on this request and strategic political confirmation direction for the U.S. Senate.

Respectfully,

Ramiro A. Cavazos
President and CEO
United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

CC: The White House
Members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
The Congressional Hispanic Caucus