



January 6, 2023

The Honorable Ben Cardin
Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Small
Business & Entrepreneurship
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Joni Ernst
Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on
Small Business & Entrepreneurship
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Confirmation of President Biden's Nominee, Dilawar Syed, as Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration

Dear Chairman Cardin and Ranking Member Ernst:

As a representative of America's 30 million small businesses, Small Business Majority writes today to strongly urge you and your fellow Committee members to swiftly confirm Dilawar Syed as President Biden's nominee for Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

Small Business Majority is a national small business organization that empowers America's diverse entrepreneurs to build a thriving and inclusive economy. We engage our network of more than 85,000 small businesses and 1,500 business and other partner organizations to advocate for public policy solutions and deliver resources to entrepreneurs that promote equitable small business growth.

Mr. Syed has led a distinguished business-oriented career from being the President and CEO at Lumiata, serving as chair of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans Pacific Islander's Economic Growth Committee under President Obama, and currently as the Special Representative for commercial and business affairs at the bureau of economic and business affairs at the U.S Department of State. In these roles Mr. Syed has proven himself to be a champion of small businesses and a voice for underserved communities.

What's more, Mr. Syed was the founding Chair of California's Entrepreneurship Task Force within the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development. The task force shares ideas and solutions to propel California's next generation of innovative entrepreneurs and small and medium businesses, ensuring they have access to resources that are essential to their expansion. We have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Syed in this capacity and have found him to be very knowledgeable about and committed to the success of our nation's small business job creators.

Mr. Syed offers innovative insights and solutions to better support the small business ecosystem. His career speaks to his commitment to diverse small businesses at the national, state and local levels. He and we know that entrepreneurs are crucial to this nation's economic growth, and he will commit himself to reinforcing their role as our economic drivers. The SBA needs a Deputy Administrator to advance the Agency's programs, build the Agency's policies and support small businesses tactfully and eloquently.

For these reasons, we urge Committee members to vote swiftly to confirm Dilawar Syed as SBA Deputy Administrator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Arensmeyer".

John Arensmeyer
Founder and CEO

cc: The Honorable Chuck Schumer, Majority Leader
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader