

United States Senate

February 14, 2017

The Honorable Linda McMahon
Administrator
Small Business Administration
409 3rd St, SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Administrator McMahon:

Congratulations on your confirmation to be the next Administrator of the Small Business Administration (SBA). As you begin the important task of foster growth in small business communities across the country, I would like to extend a formal invitation to visit Montana and see firsthand the ingenuity and spirit of entrepreneurship that exists in my state. In fact, according to SBA's 2017 state profile, small businesses represent 99.3 percent of Montana businesses, accounting for 66 percent, or nearly 240,000 employees, of the state's workforce.

After eight years of small businesses grappling with a constant stream of regulatory rules from the Obama Administration, I look forward to watching entrepreneurs now thrive under your committed leadership and steady hand. Regulatory predictability and your strong advocacy for small businesses will go far to allow many entrepreneurs to focus their efforts on providing the best services possible to create jobs and grow both their customer base and their bottom-line.

I also encourage you to improve the SBA's working relationship with small community banks and credit unions. In recent years, the SBA has come to work primarily with larger financial institutions and has not prioritized outreach to the small financial institutions, curtailing the Administration's ability to fully serve the small business community. In the process of helping entrepreneurs reach their dreams, small financial institutions should be among the SBA's closest partners due to their local knowledge and relationships, and I trust you will fully appreciate their work while you serve as Administrator.

I look forward to working closely with you to reduce the regulatory burden on small businesses, exercise good stewardship over taxpayer resources, create jobs, and develop sustained economic growth, as well as hosting you in Montana.

Sincerely,



STEVE DAINES
United States Senator