

March 3, 2025

The Honorable Joni Ernst
Chair
Committee on Small Business
& Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business
& Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Ernst and Ranking Member Markey:

On behalf of ICBA and the nearly 50,000 community bank branches we represent, I write to offer our strong support for William Briggs' confirmation as Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration. Mr. Briggs is deeply familiar with community banking and highly qualified to serve as Deputy Administrator. We request that you convene a confirmation hearing in the near future.

Community banks have a long history of working closely with the SBA to broadly and effectively deploy capital to America's small businesses. The 7(a) program is invaluable in allowing community banks to support local small businesses that would not otherwise qualify for conventional credit. Community banks account for a disproportionate amount of 7(a) loans, meeting the needs of the smallest borrowers.

Mr. Briggs has served at the Independent Bankers Association of Texas (IBAT), a prominent community bank trade association, and in the SBA's Office of Capital Access, where he helped oversee the Paycheck Protection Program, which helped community banks support their communities during a historic pandemic. These experiences have prepared him for a leadership role at the agency.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working closely with Mr. Briggs to ensure the success of agency programs.

Sincerely,
/s/
Rebeca Romero Rainey
President & CEO

CC: Members of the Senate Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship