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April 8, 2021

Ron Busby, President & CEO
U.S. Black Chambers, Inc.

Charles O'Neal, Chair
President, Texas Association of
African American Chambers of
Commerce

Antwanye Ford, Vice Chair
President and Co-Founder,
Enlightened Inc.

**Aimee Griffin Joyner, Secretary
& Legal Counsel**
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Executive Director, New
Orleans Regional Black
Chamber of Commerce

Larry Holman
President & CEO, Beaufort
County Black Chamber of
Commerce

Veta Lynn Jeffery
Executive Director,
Heartland St. Louis Black
Chamber of Commerce

Susan Vanderbilt
Chair, Nashville Black Chamber
of Commerce

The Honorable Ben Cardin
Chairman
Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dr. Rand Paul
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Nomination of Dilawar Syed as Deputy Administrator to U.S. Small Business Administration

Dear Chairman Cardin and Ranking Member Paul:

On behalf of the U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. (USBC), I write to urge the swift confirmation of Mr. Dilawar Syed, nominee for Deputy Administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Mr. Dilawar Syed brings decades of experience and committed advocacy in the small business and entrepreneurship policy realm at the federal, state, and local levels of government. During such time, he has shown dedication to supporting marginalized and overlooked communities in their endeavor to start and grow small businesses.

His leadership posts include founding Chair of the California Entrepreneurship Task Force with the Governor's Office of Economic Development, a member on President Obama's White House Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and chair of the White House Initiative on AAPIs Economic Growth Committee. Mr. Syed also led the Obama administration's engagement with small businesses across the U.S. after the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Importantly, Mr. Syed is a critical, essential ally of the Black business community. As Black entrepreneurs and small business owners navigate the road to recovery beyond the coronavirus pandemic, we require effective, inclusive-minded supporters, like Mr. Syed to advance the initiatives outlined in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and forthcoming initiatives and reforms seeking to uplift small businesses.

To this end, we endorse Mr. Dilawar Syed's nomination for Deputy Administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration. As the voice of Black business owners and a top advocate for resources and policies that impact Black business owners, we appreciate your attention and consideration of this matter. Please feel free to contact me at ron@usblackchambers.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Busby', with a horizontal line underneath.

Ron Busby
President & CEO
U.S. Black Chambers, Inc.
Sincerely,