

U.S. BLACK CHAMBERS, INC.

The National Voice of Black Business

*Not affiliated with the National Black Chamber of Commerce

June 26, 2020

The Honorable Ben Cardin Ranking Member Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Cardin:

On behalf of the U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. (USBC), I write today in strong support of the Minority Business Development Act of 2020. The USBC represents Black businesses, both large and small. We work to help Black businesses thrive, bolster the American economy, create responsible policies, and prepare the next generation of Black entrepreneurs. USBC supports this important legislation because we believe it provides a greater chance for economic growth and opportunity for Black-owned businesses and entrepreneurs.

For the past four decades, the Minority Business Development Administration (MBDA) at the Department of Commerce has supported Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) in overlooked and underserved communities across the nation. Since its creation, the efforts of MBDA have assisted in stimulating the growth of Black-owned businesses and entrepreneurs. As small business creation continues to trend upward, the challenges of resource equity and opportunity still remain prevalent for MBEs in the Black community.

The Minority Business Development Act of 2020 would improve these outcomes in a number of keyways: establishes the Minority Business Development Center (MBDC) Program, creates entrepreneurial pipelines at historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and minority serving institutions (MSIs), as well as recognizes the voice of Black Chambers of Commerce in fostering this growth.

I appreciate the introduction of this legislation as it promotes the forward movement and growth of business creation and entrepreneurship in the Black community. We look forward to working alongside Congress as it considers the Minority Business Development Act of 2020.

Sincerely,

Ron Busby President/ Chief Executive Officer U.S. Black Chambers, Inc.