



U.S. BLACK CHAMBERS, INC.

The National Voice of Black Business

**Not affiliated with the National Black Chamber of Commerce*

10/16/2019

The Honorable Nydia Velázquez
Chair
Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Velázquez:

On behalf of the U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. (USBC), I write today in strong support for *The Prison to Proprietorship Act of 2019*. 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 the *Prison to Proprietorship Act of 2019* because we believe this legislation will empower our nations thousands of citizens that will reenter society to create, inspire, and reimagine industry, leading to economic growth and positive impact on local communities.

The mass-incarceration of African Americans remains a concerning issue for our nation. As champions of entrepreneurship, we recognize the need and opportunity for successful policy that aims to reduce that population as well as the alarming rate of recidivism amongst formerly incarcerated African Americans. I am confident that business ownership can illuminate a path forward and a brighter future for these individuals.

I thank you for introducing this important piece of legislation which will positively benefit the growth of entrepreneurship amongst newly released Americans.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Busby", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

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