



March 3, 2025

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

The Honorable Ed Markey
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Small Business &
Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Ernst, Ranking Member Markey, and Members of the Committee:

As the nation's oldest small business advocacy organization, representing our membership of more than 65,000 and the 70+ million owners and employees that make up the U.S. small business sector, we are writing to express our strong support for the nomination of Casey Mulligan, of Illinois, to be Chief Counsel for Advocacy at the Small Business Administration.

Small companies represent more than 99 percent of all businesses in the United States, and we collectively employ nearly half of the nation's workforce. However, despite these figures, small businesses are uniquely vulnerable to shifting regulatory burdens, and are much more likely to bear the brunt of excessive government regulation. For years, the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), which clearly outlines regulatory agencies' duties in accounting for impacts of their actions on small entities, has gone all but ignored. Agencies have bypassed the process, and small businesses have paid the price.

Exacerbating the problem is the fact that the sole independent office in the Federal Government tasked with engaging with agencies as a part of the RFA has gone without a confirmed leader for nearly a decade. Small companies need, and deserve, a fully staffed Office of Advocacy to serve as their watchdog in the Federal regulatory process. We were pleased that President Trump made a historically early nomination of Dr. Casey Mulligan to lead the Office, signaling the importance of the role and the Office itself.

After much consideration, and productive and engaging conversations with the nominee, we believe that Dr. Mulligan is the ideal candidate to lead the Office of Advocacy. He brings a unique—and highly beneficial—combination of academic expertise and technical understanding of government to the role. We strongly urge you to advance his nomination out of Committee, and confirm him before the full Senate.

Sincerely,

Todd McCracken
President & CEO
National Small Business Association

Reed Westcott
Executive Director
Small Business Exporters Association

March 3, 2025

Page 2

cc: The Honorable James Risch
The Honorable Rand Paul
The Honorable Tim Scott
The Honorable Todd Young
The Honorable Josh Hawley
The Honorable Ted Budd
The Honorable John Curtis
The Honorable Jim Justice
The Honorable John Husted

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
The Honorable Cory Booker
The Honorable Chris Coons
The Honorable Mazie Hirono
The Honorable Jacky Rosen
The Honorable John Hickenlooper
The Honorable Adam Schiff