

Bill Briggs
Nominee
Deputy Administrator, Small Business Administration

Chair Ernst, Ranking Member Markey, and distinguished Members of the Committee. My name is Bill Briggs and it is a great honor to appear before you today as President Trump's nominee for Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

I am grateful to President Trump for offering me the opportunity to again serve America's 34 million small businesses, which are the backbone of our economy, the lifeblood of our communities, and the engine of innovation and prosperity.

I would also like to thank Administrator Loeffler for her support. There is no stronger advocate for small businesses – and already, SBA has seen a restoration under her leadership. Finally, I want to thank God for everything, especially the challenges which make me rely on Him.

During President Trump's first term, our nation's economy was the envy of the world. Job creators and job seekers were empowered, driving small business formation and a blue-collar boom. Through historic tax cuts, fair trade deals, and deregulation, his agenda created seven million new jobs, delivered historically low poverty, and record employment for minority communities. Indeed, small business optimism has surged since the November election because America's entrepreneurs know help is on the way.

If confirmed, this will be my third time as a presidential appointee, and Administrator Loeffler will be the fourth Cabinet-level Administrator that I will have the opportunity to serve. During my prior service at SBA, I oversaw the day-to-day operations of the Paycheck Protection Program, which helped to save 11 million small business jobs. I hope to leverage a wealth of institutional knowledge – and lessons – that will enable me to hit the ground running if confirmed.

I bring to the role over two decades of public service and private sector experience. My first job out of college was in state government working on veteran affairs and local economic development issues. From there, I have served in senior roles at industry trade associations interspersed with two presidential appointments.

During the last Trump Administration, I served as the Acting Associate Administrator in the Office of Capital Access, where I oversaw all SBA lending programs. I also served as an advisor to the Administrator on engaging small business organizations during this crucial time in the agency's history. Finally, I led internal agency reform efforts including the SBA Field Alignment and rebranding initiatives launched under then Administrator Linda McMahon.

Like many Americans, my belief in the power of small business is personal. My family is steeped in service to our country as much as its spirit of entrepreneurship – and I'm proud to be joined today by my parents and family members. Both of my grandfathers served in WWII, my mother was an army nurse, and two of my brothers served overseas in our armed forces. Two of

my sisters run a small business today and I have owned and operated two small businesses myself.

My sister Katie owns a small landscape design company and often shares how excessive regulations, including extensive environmental permits, take up her time, drive up equipment costs, and hamper her ability to serve her clients. She is forced to either cut back on employees, reduce her services, or cut into her own bottom line. Her story is the story of thousands of small businesses who have been put under enormous strain over the last four years with excessive regulation, crushing inflation, and big government bureaucracy.

Our private sector hiring, though beginning to recover under President Trump, has declined for over a year. If we are to bring back jobs – and ensure that our economy continues to grow – we must first unshackle and support free enterprise. One of the ways to do that is to ensure that SBA is effectively serving small business – by cutting regulation, eliminating fraud and waste, streamlining and modernizing services, and refocusing the agency on its core mission of helping entrepreneurs thrive.

With the America First agenda, we are poised to unlock an entirely new era of growth and opportunity for the risk takers, job creators, and innovators who power this nation's economy. If confirmed, I look forward to supporting President Trump and Administrator Loeffler to ensure SBA programs deliver real results for Main Street – and all of America.

Chair Ernst, Ranking Member Markey, and Members of the Committee: thank you for your dedication to U.S. small businesses. I welcome your questions and would be honored to earn your support to serve as the next Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.