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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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January 25, 2011

The Honorable Peggy E. Gustafson  
Inspector General  
Office of the Inspector General  
U.S. Small Business Administration  
409 Third Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20416

Dear Inspector General Gustafson:

As the new Congress convenes, the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship will begin the session by examining and assessing the need, efficiency and effectiveness of programs within the Small Business Administration (SBA). Additionally, through legislative and oversight activities, the Committee will undertake a careful examination of ways to improve and strengthen small business programs within the SBA, including the possibility of eliminating duplicative, ineffective, or redundant programs.

Like the American people, Congress must continue to evaluate and determine what spending is necessary to meet current needs and demands while identifying and eliminating needless spending. Accordingly, we take this responsibility seriously and will dedicate time and effort in this Congress to determine the best path forward.

Given your Office's statutory role in promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration and management of SBA programs, we respectfully request recommendations for programs within the SBA that you believe could be eliminated or substantially reduced without undermining the SBA's ability to serve the needs of small business owners. In order to fully consider your recommendations ahead of our efforts, we ask that these recommendations be submitted to us by February 10, 2011.

Thank you for your leadership on behalf of America's small businesses. We look forward to working closely with you in the new Congress to ensure that these goals and objectives are met.

Sincerely,

  
Mary L. Landrieu  
Chair

  
Olympia J. Snowe  
Ranking Member