

July 21, 2014

The Honorable Jeff Merkley  
United States Senator  
121 S.W. Salmon Street, Suite 1400  
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Senator Merkley:

Administrator Contreras-Sweet has asked me to respond to your recent letter in support of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber's application for U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) PRIME grant funding.

PRIME provides technical assistance and training dollars to entities that use the funds to assist in the establishment or improvement with their small businesses. This year, the focus of PRIME will be on improving the use of technology based tools for small businesses, small business trainers, and reporting. We will also focus on ways to improve opportunities for success among worker-owned cooperatives and their members. We look forward to awarding these grants and strengthening the capacity of America's small businesses.

We appreciate your support of SBA and the Wisconsin small business community. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact the SBA Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs at (202) 205-6700.

Sincerely,

Grady Hedgespeth  
Director  
Office of Economic Opportunity