

January 8, 2013

The Honorable Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Scott:

Administrator Mills has asked me to respond to your request concerning the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Patriot Express Pilot Loan Program (PX).

The SBA has an ongoing commitment to provide access to capital for the Nation's military community. Priority programs such as PX are offered by a network of participating banks and financial institutions nationwide, and have been engineered with streamlined documentation and turnaround to facilitate better service to entrepreneurial veterans. Lenders willing to extend business credit to qualified veterans under PX are rewarded with higher guarantees than for our regular Express loans. In FY 2012, SBA supported nearly \$2.1 billion in lending to over 2,800 veteran-owned small businesses, including \$118 million through the PX Loan Program.

The SBA Office of Veterans Business Development's mission is to maximize the availability, applicability and usability of all small business programs for Veterans, Service-Disabled Veterans, Reserve Component Members, and their Dependents. Each of our district offices has a designated Veterans Business Development Officer (VBDO) that serves as a local point of contact to provide one on one information and referrals to SBA resource partners that can assist with feasibility, business planning, and financial analysis to ready the veteran applicant for financing, and to further identify lenders in their area that participate in the PX Program as well as other SBA loan programs. Specific VBDO and veteran resource information can be found on SBA's website at www.sba.gov/about-offices-content/1/2985. The SBA continues to work in conjunction with other Federal Agencies to improve the services provided to the military community.

We appreciate your support of the SBA and the community of veteran owned small businesses. If you and your staff need additional information or have further questions, please contact the SBA Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs at (202) 205-6700.

Sincerely,

Jeanne A. Hulit
Associate Administrator
Office of Capital Access