

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 22, 2009

Administrator Karen Gordon Mills
U.S. Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Administrator Mills,

We have recently heard concerns from a number of small business owners throughout the Commonwealth about the implementation of SBA programs under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act particularly the American Recovery Capital (ARC), which we understand may not be finalized until sometime this summer.

We recognize that the Administration is in the midst of administering a host of new programs as well as a budget that has increased substantially since the stimulus passed. But because our small businesses need to be able to plan in the short term, we ask that you provide us with a clear description of when exactly the ARC rules will be finalized. We would also appreciate a similar description for other programs that SBA is in the process of implementing to assist small businesses during this economic crisis.

Additionally, we have heard that because banks are reducing lending and access to credit, many small businesses who are participating in SBA programs are struggling to get timely financing from SBA lenders. We encourage you to coordinate with Secretary Geithner to ensure that small businesses can plan in accordance with the Department of Treasury's efforts to restart the flow of credit in this realm.

We realize how difficult it is to ramp up programs and dollar amounts of unprecedented size and scope. Because of the time sensitivity of the circumstances of this request, we ask that you send a response within a week of receipt of this letter. We stand ready to assist you in any way possible and believe that our knowledge of and relationships with our constituent business communities can be useful in disseminating this information.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns and your timely response.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



Glenn C. Nye
United States Congressman

CC: Tim Geithner, Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Treasury