

February 20, 2025

The Honorable Brad Finstad U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harriet Hageman U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nathaniel Moran U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear U.S. Representatives Finstad, Hageman and Moran:

Burdensome federal regulation and an unaccountable regulatory system have long been concerns of entrepreneurs and small business owners. The Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council (SBE Council) is pleased that you have introduced legislation that will make the system more accountable to our nation's small business owners. The Prove It Act strengthens the voice of business owners in the rulemaking process and provides needed accountability measures that protect small firms from costly regulation. SBE Council strongly supports the legislation.

In the previous administration, federal regulators across government <u>regularly overlooked</u> <u>required procedures</u> to protect small businesses from excessive and costly regulation. In fact, by the end of his term in office, regulators under President Biden imposed a conservative <u>\$1.8</u> <u>trillion in regulatory costs on the economy and private sector</u> – the most of any administration on record. This can never happen again.

The Prove It Act requires that federal agencies clearly demonstrate that they are complying with existing laws meant to protect small businesses. Importantly, the bill requires an analysis of both the direct and indirect costs of proposed rules. Small business owners are provided recourse if they believe regulatory procedures have not been followed. If proven that the government has not been compliant in following required procedures, small businesses will be exempt from the new regulation.

Under the Prove It Act, small business owners are provided meaningful input regarding the effect and outcome of proposed rules. Their voice and views are critical in making sure federal regulators do not overreach, and that proposals address solutions in a reasonable manner. In addition, guidance from the agencies must be easily accessed online along with assistance if small business owners have questions or concerns.

The Prove It Act is a common-sense bill that should garner the support of every member of Congress. Thank you for your strong leadership and collaboration, and please let SBE Council know how we can support your efforts in advancing this important legislation into law.

Sincerely,

Karen Kerrigan President & CEO

Jan Veniger

Protecting Small Business, Promoting Entrepreneurship

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