

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 13, 2025

The Honorable Kelly Loeffler  
Administrator  
U.S. Small Business Administration  
409 Third Street, SW, Suite 7900  
Washington, D.C. 20416

Dear Administrator Loeffler,

We write to express our concerns and strong opposition to your announcement that you plan to relocate the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Regional Office out of Los Angeles. According to the SBA Office of Advocacy, the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area is comprised of over 1.7 million small businesses employing over 2.6 million Americans.<sup>1</sup> These are small businesses that are not only still recovering from catastrophic wildfires, but simultaneously preparing to showcase the epitome of American business and entrepreneurship to the world as the region hosts major, global events including the 2026 FIFA World Cup and LA28 Olympic Games.

In a May 20, 2025 letter you sent to Members of Congress, you share that you told the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce that “not only is the agency committed to helping these communities rebuild – we are also committed to ensuring the region has this agency’s full support ahead of the upcoming World Cup, Super Bowl, and Olympic Games.” Yet, in a post on X from June 7, 2025, you wrote: “effective immediately, @SBAgov will begin relocating its Regional Office out of L.A. If a city won’t protect its people, we won’t stay.”<sup>2</sup> We are deeply concerned by your swift renegeing on the commitment you made to the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and the small businesses of the Los Angeles area.

To be absolutely clear, we stand by law and order and the belief that our cities should be safe. We condemn acts of violence. However, rare occurrences or hyperbolic crimes should not be the impetus for depriving millions of small businesses of critical access to resources. Your decision to relocate the SBA out of Los Angeles now marks the seventh office you are moving out of a major metropolitan area. Your decision is punitive, unjust, and counterproductive, and we urge you to not stray from your mission to support all small businesses. We are not aware of any evidence of mass threats to small businesses or attempts by you or your office to coordinate with local law enforcement regarding your concern for the safety of small businesses you claim are in unsafe cities. Hence, your weaponization of the SBA is nothing but fearmongering and a political stunt.

Your mission as Administrator of the SBA is to help and support small businesses nationwide, regardless of if they are owned and operated by Democrats, Independents, or Republicans. In

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<sup>1</sup> [https://advocacy.sba.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/West\\_2024\\_09\\_23.pdf](https://advocacy.sba.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/West_2024_09_23.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://x.com/SBA\\_Kelly/status/1931472723424800771](https://x.com/SBA_Kelly/status/1931472723424800771)

your hearing testimony before the House Small Business Committee on June 4, 2025, you claimed you are “unleashing resources ...back out into the field.”<sup>3</sup> When you move SBA resources out of major metropolitan areas, you are making it harder for small businesses to receive critical services. As expressed during the hearing, Congress is concerned that the SBA has no clear plans for the relocation of any of its offices or for any efforts to prevent disruptions to small businesses.

To support and validate your repeated claims of transparency it is incumbent upon you to provide a meaningful and timely response. Please provide the following information and answer the following questions as soon as possible, but no later than June 30, 2025.

1. A detailed summary of the data-driven criteria used to inform and justify the decision to relocate the Los Angeles Regional Office from the area.
2. A detailed explanation on how the relocation advances the SBA’s mission to aid, counsel, assist, and protect the interests of small business concerns; preserve free competitive enterprise; and maintain and strengthen the overall economy of the nation.
3. A detailed summary of engagement and coordination with local law enforcement addressing perceived threats or safety concerns ahead of the announcement to relocate the Los Angeles Regional Office. Please include how the relocation of the office promotes public safety for the 1.7 million small businesses in the region.
4. Has a new location for the office been identified and what is the timeline for the relocation?
5. A detailed explanation of SBA’s plans to fulfill its commitment of resources and services to Los Angeles area small businesses during and after the relocation.
6. A detailed explanation of how the Orange County/ Inland Empire District Offices will be impacted by this abrupt relocation of the Los Angeles District Office.
7. A detailed summary of the status, potential relocation, and SBA plan to continue support for each of the following offices:
  - Pacific Palisades Disaster Loan Outreach Center
  - West Hollywood Business Recovery Center
  - Pasadena Disaster Loan Outreach Center
  - Altadena Survivor Support Location
  - Santa Monica Library Business Recovery Center
  - Asian Pacific Islander Women’s Business Center
  - CA SBDC Long Beach City
  - CA SBDC College of the Canyons
  - CA SBDC El Camino College
  - CA SBDC Pacific Coast Regional
  - CA SBDC Center for International Trade and Development
  - Long Beach/South Bay SCORE
  - Los Angeles SCORE
  - Los Angeles Veterans Business Outreach Center
  - New Economics for Women – Women’s Business Center
  - PACE Women’s Business Center

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<sup>3</sup> <http://docs.house.gov/meetings/SM/SM00/20250604/118319/HHRG-119-SM00-Wstate-LoefflerK-20250604.pdf>

- Pasadena City College SBDC
  - Pasadena City College Women's Business Center
  - South LA Women's Business Center
  - University of La Verne SBDC
  - WBC Gateway Cities Women's Business Center
8. How many SBA employees or employees of SBA Resource Partners will be affected by the relocation of the Los Angeles Regional Office?
  9. Who is managing the relocation process and what staffing and resources are being implemented to execute the relocation?
  10. How will the SBA conduct outreach and engagement with small businesses and local stakeholders to alert them of the relocation and receive input on how to best meet the community's needs going forward?
  11. How will the relocation be funded? Please also provide an itemized list of all costs or projected costs to relocate the Los Angeles Regional Office.

Small businesses want us to facilitate easier, better, and timely resources and support to thrive. Moving SBA resources away from small businesses only creates obstacles and barriers to their success in an already uncertain economic environment. Thus, we urge you to immediately reverse course and keep the SBA's presence in Los Angeles to fulfill your commitment to the resilient workers and job creators of the region.

We hope to work with you to ensure our small businesses in Southern California continue to succeed.

Sincerely,



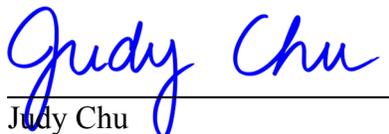

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Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress




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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress




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Judy Chu  
Member of Congress




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Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress




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Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress




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Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



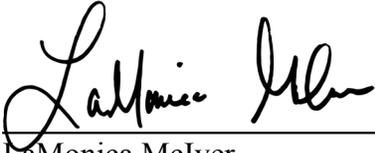
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Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



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LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



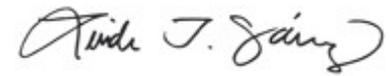
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Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



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J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



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Linda T. Sánchez  
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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



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Juan Vargas  
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Laura Friedman  
Member of Congress



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Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



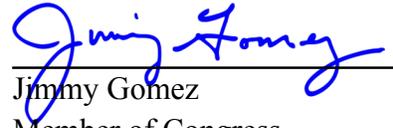
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Luz M. Rivas  
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Sydney Kamlager Dove  
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Jimmy Gomez  
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