February 13, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
President of the United States of America  
The Honorable Kamala Harris  
Vice President of the United States of America

Dear President Biden and Vice President Harris,

On behalf of the Small Business Roundtable (SBR) and our network of small business advocacy organizations, we write to express our support for Jessica Cavazos to serve as Assistant Secretary for the Minority Business Development Agency at the U.S. Department of Commerce. We believe that this candidate’s expertise and experience merits serious consideration during the vetting process. Jessica is the former President of the Eleva Group, an organization whose mission was to create social programs, help non-profits with governance issues, and assist for-profit and non-profit entities in implementing initiatives aimed at promoting actions that are both economically and socially beneficial. In addition to her work with the Eleva Group, Cavazos has extensive experience in government relations, policy, community engagement and business development. She also worked as a Congressional Liaison for eight years in the office of Congresswoman Gwen Moore.

Throughout her career in government, Jessica has been deeply involved in organizations that build and support the Latino community. She has served as Secretary and board member of the National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives Midwest Region and coordinator for the Central Region’s Federal Diversity Committee. She is the current President and CEO of the Latino Chamber of Commerce Dane County in Wisconsin and a member of the national Board of Directors at the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. She has been named UMOS’ Hispanic Woman of the Year for her volunteerism and community advocacy. Jessica understands firsthand how to serve and be inclusive of minority communities, businesses, and constituencies. Furthermore, acts as a critical bridge between technical assistance providers and minority entrepreneurs.

The Small Business Roundtable is a coalition of leading small business and entrepreneurship organizations, dedicated to advancing policy, securing access, and promoting inclusion to benefit the businesses at the heart of the American economy.

The Small Business Roundtable firmly believes that having a strong Hispanic presence at every level of government will allow us to fully reflect our diversity in Hispanic communities, including gender, race, sexual orientation, religion, disability, and ethnicity. Our country will benefit from the wealth of talent and commitment that lies in the professional identities of many Hispanic public service professionals.
We look forward to collaborating with you and the Office of Presidential Personnel to achieve this important goal.

Respectfully,
National Asian / Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurship
National Association for the Self-Employed (NASE)
National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO)
Reimagine Main Street
Small Business for America’s Future
U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP)