



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

April 21, 2006

The Honorable John F. Kerry  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

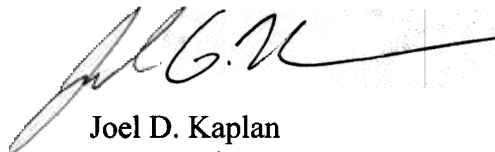
Dear Senator Kerry:

Thank you for your letter of February 28, 2006, to Director Bolten regarding presentation of Small Business Administration (SBA) data in Table S-3, "Growth in Discretionary Budget Authority By Major Agency," in the main budget volume. Director Bolten has asked that I respond on his behalf.

As you have noted, the 2006 and 2007 Budgets do not include a separate line item in Table S-3 for SBA, but rather include SBA data as part of the "Other Agencies" line in the table. Table S-3 is a highly aggregated summary, and at times we must adjust the presentation in summary tables in order to improve the clarity of information. In the case of Table S-3, all of the agencies considered are much larger than SBA, with the exception of the Executive Office of the President, and SBA's funding is about one tenth of one percent of the total funding reported. However, there are alternative sources of detailed information on SBA budgetary authority. For example, Table 5.4 in the Historical Tables volume provides total budget authority by agency for a broader range of years. In addition, this table includes supplemental funds. As you requested, I am also enclosing the SBA information that is included in the "Other Agencies" line of Table S-3.

We appreciate your interest in this matter and will take your recommendation into consideration when developing summary tables for the 2008 Budget. Thank you again for taking the time to communicate your views.

Sincerely,



Joel D. Kaplan  
Deputy Director

Encl.

**Growth in Discretionary Budget Authority**  
 (Net budgetary authority\*; dollar amount in billions)

Fiscal Year								<u>Growth</u>	
	<u>Enacted</u>			<u>Requested</u>				<u>Average</u>	<u>Cummulative</u>
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2001-2007	2001-2007
<b>Small Business Administration</b>	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.6		
Change from prior year - percent..		-15%			19%	13%	7%		30.6%
Change from prior year - dollars...		-0.1			-0.1	-0.1	0.1		-0.3

\*Excludes supplemental funding