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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6350

February 28, 2006

VIA FACSIMILE & FIRST-CLASS MAIL

The Honorable Hector V. Barreto
Administrator
Small Business Administration
409 Third Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20416

Re: FY2007 Legislative Package for the Small Business Administration

Dear Administrator Barreto:


I am writing regarding the status of the Small Business Administration's (SBA) legislative package for FY2007. The Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship has not yet received it, and historically agencies provide that package to their respective committees of jurisdiction when the budget is delivered the first week in February. Last year our Committee received a package from the SBA on February 8, 2005, and I am hopeful that your package for this year will be delivered soon.

Time is important because our Committee is preparing for its hearing on the SBA's FY2007 budget and the Senate Committee on Budget plans to markup up the FY2007 Budget Resolution next week. Among other proposals, the President's budget for the SBA imposes a new fee for the SBA's loan and venture capital programs and proposes a new fee structure for disaster loans. These proposals would require legislative changes and therefore it is very important for Congress to receive the SBA's FY2007 legislative package as soon as possible in order to review how the borrowers, lenders, and SBA's programs would be affected.

Please have delivered to my office the SBA's FY2007 Legislative Package by close of business Wednesday, March 1, 2006.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry
Ranking Member