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February 11, 2014

The Honorable Mary L. Landrieu
Chair
Committee on Small Business
& Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable James E. Risch
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business
& Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Landrieu and Ranking Member Risch:

On behalf of the nearly 7,000 community banks represented by the Independent Community Bankers of America, I write to express our support for the nomination of Maria Contreras-Sweet to serve as Administrator of the Small Business Administration (SBA).

Ms. Contreras-Sweet is Founder and Chairwoman of ProAmérica Bank, a community bank in Los Angeles, CA. Like thousands of community bankers across America, Ms. Contreras-Sweet has demonstrated a passion for helping small businesses in her community grow and thrive, with a particular focus on the Latino business community. In addition, she has served as Secretary of the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency and has served on the Board of California Blue Cross. Ms. Contreras-Sweet is highly regarded in the California business community. With a mix of business and government experience, she is highly qualified to lead the SBA and we fully support her nomination.

Thank you for holding this hearing and for your work in supporting America's small businesses.

Sincerely,

/s/

Camden R. Fine
President and CEO

CC: Members of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship