Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 10, 2012

President Barack Obama The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

We are pleased to forward to you for your consideration the names of two candidates for the position of New England Regional Administrator for the Small Business Administration. They are: State Senator Seth Goodall and Steve Minkowsky. It is our understanding that both of these candidates are deeply interested in serving out an entire term if ultimately selected for this position.

Since 1992, and subsequently over the course of four Administrations, a Mainer has been nominated to serve in this position, and it is our belief that both of these candidates would make the Administration and the people of New England proud. We strongly believe small businesses are critical to our nation's economic recovery and to the overall health of our economy, especially in rural states like Maine. After lengthy discussions with both of them, we believe they each would bring a wealth of knowledge, talent and breadth of experience to the position.

The recommended candidates' resumes are enclosed with this letter. The letter and resumes have also been sent to your office electronically. Please let us know if you need any additional information or if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

With warmest regards,

Michael H. Michaud Member of Congress Chellie Pingree Member of Congress