



February 28, 2020

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth
United States Senate
524 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Duckworth,

Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP) a national, nonpartisan organization advocating on behalf of women entrepreneurs, would like to express our support for a bill to reauthorize the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise.

The Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise played a vital role in monitoring, coordinating, and promoting programs within federal agencies that support and strengthen women's business ownership. By reauthorizing this Committee, your legislation will ensure that the Committee can continue this work and further encourage key departments and agencies to provide women in business access to technical assistance, government contracts, financial support via grant and loan programs, and business training.

More than 36% of American businesses are women-owned, a segment growing at four times the rate of men-owned businesses. Government support through various procurement, lending and business assistance programs and centers play a key role in the success of women-owned businesses. A continued focus on promoting women in business throughout the federal government will maximize and grow their already sizable impact on our economy: \$1.6 trillion annually to the economy and employing nearly 9 million.

We thank you for sponsoring this important piece of legislation. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Sullivan on WIPP's policy team at (202) 626-8528 or at esullivan@madisonservicesgroup.com.

Sincerely,

Candace Waterman
President, Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP)