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February 23, 2021

The Honorable Ben Cardin Chair

U.S. Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship 509 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Rand Paul Ranking Member U.S. Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship 167 Russell Senate Office Building Washington DC, 20510

Dear Chair Cardin and Ranking Member Paul:

The 1.4 million members of the National Association of REALTORS® enthusiastically support the nomination of Isabella Casillas Guzman as Administrator of the United States Small Business Administration (SBA).

NAR's membership is comprised of many small business owners and independent contractors, and small businesses make up a large portion of NAR's commercial practitioner clientele. During the COVID-19 crisis, the SBA has taken on an increasingly important role in the survival of the country's small businesses, providing aid through programs such as the Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loans to keep small businesses open and their employees paid. These businesses make up the backbone of the U.S. economy and will be a crucial player in the economic recovery following the pandemic, but getting them there will require strong leadership from the SBA.

Ms. Guzman has a long history of dedication to U.S. small businesses, having previously served as the director of California's Office of the Small Business Advocate and as deputy chief of staff at the SBA during the Obama Administration.

Ms. Guzman's experience with the SBA and working on behalf of small businesses around the country make her particularly well-suited to meet the challenges of this historic time, and to provide the leadership and solutions small businesses are in need of now. NAR strongly supports the nomination of Ms. Guzman, and urges you to pass this vote out of the Committee and to the Senate floor with haste.

Sincerely

Charlie Oppler

2021 President, National Association of REALTORS®

cc: U.S. Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship