



[Similar letters sent to the Honorable Olympia J. Snowe, the Honorable Tom Coburn, the Honorable Nydia M. Velazquez and the Honorable Steve Chabot.]

February 7, 2008

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Chairman
Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship
United State Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Tax and Regulatory Study on Barriers to Veteran Business Owners

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter dated January 30, 2008, requesting a study on the various federal tax and regulatory barriers hindering veterans in their efforts to become entrepreneurs and to sustain their businesses. As you know, the Office of Advocacy is an independent office, so this response and our work to honor your request do not necessarily reflect the views of Small Business Administration (SBA) or the Administration. This letter was not circulated to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for comment.

For several years, the Office of Advocacy has worked diligently to examine issues of relevance to the veteran community. The latest issue of *The Small Business Economy: A Report to the President* features a chapter on the characteristics of veteran business owners, which utilized data from the 2002 Survey of Business Owners produced by the U.S. Census Bureau. We have conducted other research of note, which can be found at <http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/veterans.html>. Last fall, we contracted for a study that will assess the impact to small businesses when reservists are called up to active duty. The study you requested will add to our understanding of veteran entrepreneurship and the timeline you requested (18 months) allows for us to meet all legal requirements that accompany our research projects.

My office will make sure that you are kept apprised of our progress on this important project. Please do not hesitate to contact me or my office's Chief Economist and Director of Economic Research, Chad Moutray, if you have any further questions about the Office of Advocacy's research process. Dr. Moutray may be reached directly at (202) 205-6973 or by email at chad.moutray@sba.gov.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Sullivan
Chief Counsel for Advocacy

