

**AEO Sends Letter in Support of Gilberto de Jesus, Chief Counsel
for Advocacy Nominee**



February 10, 2015

The Honorable David Vitter
Chair
Committee on Small Business &
Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Benjamin Cardin
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business &
Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Vitter and Ranking Member Cardin,

On behalf of the Association for Enterprise Opportunity (AEO), I am writing in support of Gilberto de Jesús' nomination to serve as Chief Counsel for Advocacy. AEO is the national member organization and voice of microbusiness in the United States, representing a more than 450 members and partner network of nonprofit lenders and business development organizations.

Mr. de Jesús extensive experience serving overall business concerns and his prior accomplishments, both in and out of government, will serve him well as Chief Counsel for Advocacy at the Small Business Administration. I am confident that Mr. de Jesús will be an advocate for entrepreneurs and microbusinesses, ensuring that they are not left behind as the economy continues to improve.

The Office of Advocacy's mandate is a critical one, conducting research on the small business sector, advocating for small businesses within the federal government's agencies and rulemaking processes, and fostering public awareness of small business contributions and concerns.

AEO proudly supports Mr. de Jesús' nomination and we look forward to working with Mr. de Jesús, if confirmed, to solve the challenges our nation's entrepreneurs face. I hope that you will move his nomination as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Connie Evans', written in a cursive style.

Connie Evans, President and CEO
The Association for Enterprise Opportunity