



September 22, 2017

The Honorable Tom Cullerton
338 S. Ardmore Ave.
Villa Park, IL 60181

Dear State Senator Cullerton:

Small businesses are the economic engine of our state and their growth is the key to rebuilding financial stability in Illinois. Politicians almost universally praise small businesses, but many times the highly publicized initiatives that are meant to energize economic growth focus on the needs of larger companies. Our coalition hopes to work with you to secure real help for our community on an issue that is specific to small businesses.

As you know, the fees associated with filing and operating a limited liability company, or LLC, in Illinois are among the highest in the nation. Forming as a LLC is the right choice for many small businesses as it provides the limited liability features of a corporation and the tax efficiencies and operational flexibility of a partnership. Unfortunately, far too many business owners do not form LLC's in Illinois because of these excessive fees.

Small businesses in our state should not be penalized by paying fees significantly higher than corporations. Lowering these fees will help level the playing field for small businesses, encourage new businesses to form in Illinois, and improve the perception of the business climate for would-be entrepreneurs. It will also send a strong signal that Springfield is committed to empowering small business owners in our state.

We appreciate all of your engagement on this issue and hope we can count on your support to bring LLC reform legislation across the finish line. SB 867 passed the Illinois House with unanimous support on May 31st. As this bill has since been referred to the Committee on Assignments, we ask that you bring the bill up for concurrence in the Senate during the fall veto session.

A robust coalition has worked for several years on the reforms contained in SB 867 and you have the ability to make them a reality. We look forward to working with you to pass this bipartisan measure out of the Senate so it can be signed into law by Governor Rauner.

Our state faces many challenges. However, we see LLC reform as a real opportunity to display how government can work when elected officials from both sides of the aisle come together in support of the small business community - often lauded, but overlooked when it counts.

If you have any questions about this issue or our efforts to promote LLC reform, please contact Kim Brisky at kimberly@sbacil.org or (312) 548-8608 ex 105.

Sincerely,

Melissa Ryzy, Board President
Small Business Advocacy Council

Shirlanne Lemm, President & CEO
GOA Regional Business Association
Elk Grove Chamber & Itasca Chamber



GREATER OAK BROOK

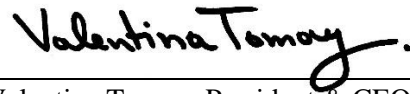


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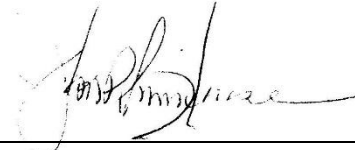
Nanette Gudenkauf, President & CEO
Bartlett Area Chamber of Commerce



Valentina Tomov, President & CEO
Greater Oak Brook Chamber of Commerce and
Economic Development Partnership



Alexandra Eidenberg, Founder & Board President
Mom + Baby



John Binneboese, President
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John T. Dabrowski, Vice President
Roselle Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Bloomingdale Township Assessor



David J. Sabathne', President & CEO
Western DuPage Chamber of Commerce