ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TEAM

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FUNDING FOR SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

Requested Action:

 Support funding for Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) in the amount of \$125 million for FY2017

Background:

The Sacramento Metro Chamber respectfully requests that the Fiscal Year 2017 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill allocate funding for the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) in the amount of \$125 million for FY2017. Nationwide, the SBDCs have been very effective at helping local small businesses and entrepreneurs succeed and drive economic growth and job creation.

In our area, the Capital Region SBDC counseled 598 clients and generated 51 loans in 2015. The SBDC's work led to creation of 27 new businesses and 93 jobs, with an additional 75 jobs retained. In total, the Capital Region SBDC helped companies in our region access over \$8.2 million in capital – on a 2015 goal of \$6.6 million.

The nearly 1,000 SBDCs nationwide are an important economic development engine. Between 2002 and 2014, the national SBDC network helped their small business clients create over 845,000 jobs and prevent the loss of a further 870,000 jobs.

During that period SBDCs also helped small businesses increase sales by over \$74 billion and helped entrepreneurs attract over \$42 billion in financing. That economic activity resulted in \$2.6 billion in increased federal revenues and \$3.1 billion in increased state revenues.

The SBDCs are poised to build on their record and have a significant impact on small business and the national economy. This appropriation will also be matched one-to-one, thus enabling SBDCs to leverage the federal investment and increase its impact on small business. This increased appropriation will enable SBDCs to serve more businesses and entrepreneurs, enable more business starts, spur job creation, and increase overall economic activity.