



April 30, 2025

The Honorable Joni Ernst
Chair
Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
428A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roger Williams
Chair
Committee on Small Business
United States House of Representatives
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairs Ernst and Williams:

On behalf of nearly 1,000 private-sector financial institutions and partners that served over 70,000 small businesses across the U.S. just last year alone through the Small Business Administration (SBA) 7(a) Loan Program, I write to express the support of the National Association of Government Guaranteed Lenders (NAGGL) for the *Made in America Manufacturing Finance Act*.

NAGGL believes that the SBA could play a vital role in expanding capital for our nation's manufacturers. Often, manufacturers need large facilities and/or specialty equipment that can exceed the current SBA loan size limitations. Therefore, especially since it has been 15 years since the 7(a) Program maximum loan size was increased to \$5 million, we believe that it would be appropriate to consider increasing that maximum to \$10 million for loans to small business manufacturers as proposed in your legislation. As you are undoubtedly aware, SBA has issued a revision to the Standing Operating Procedures manual that governs the 7(a) and 504 programs that, when it takes effect on June 1, 2025, will bring prudent underwriting guidelines back to its loan programs. Given that, NAGGL is happy to support the passage of your co-sponsored legislation which will increase the maximum loan size to \$10,000 for small manufacturing businesses.

However, since current program demand could fully utilize already existing program authorization, we recommend that the Committees commit to supporting an increase in the authorization level for the 7(a) Program commensurate with the expected increase in demand occurring because of the proposed legislative changes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony R. Wilkinson".

Anthony R. Wilkinson
President & CEO