

600,000 New Drivers on the Road to Recovery

Dear President-Elect Obama:

In the midst of our worst financial crisis in decades, we all need to work together to refuel the American economy. Fortunately, there are 600,000 new economic contributors who stand ready to help.

They are the American entrepreneurs who started businesses in 2008. In fact, every year, nearly 600,000 people in the United States start a new business—ordinary men and women, of all ages, races, and backgrounds. Day in and day out, without any fanfare, they are striving to build businesses that will benefit themselves and their families, their communities, and the economy at large.

Entrepreneurs invent, innovate, and advance living standards for society. They are the growth-drivers and job-creators of our economy. Nearly all of the private-sector job growth in the United States each year comes from firms less than five years old!

Historically, these new firms have been vital engines of economic recovery. Think Southwest Airlines, FedEx, Apple, and Microsoft—these companies were founded in downturns and helped us grow our way out of past recessions.

Our nation needs to do everything it can to help these innovators do what they do best. Because today's entrepreneurs—and the millions who will follow in their footsteps—will lead America out of our economic troubles and put us back on the road to prosperity.

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