



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.  
TENTH DISTRICT  
NEW JERSEY

January 10, 2020

Tedditashe Payton  
President  
OZBCF  
1616 H Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear President Payton,

I want to thank you for your gracious invitation to attend the Second Annual U.S. Opportunity Zone Black Capitalism Fund Summit on February 12, 2020, at the Atlantic City Showboat Resort. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend because Congress is in session.

But I am a great supporter of your organization and dedication to improving minority communities, particularly in Atlantic City, New Jersey. In our Build America roundtables, we discuss how it is a good time to invest in minority communities through minority-owned small businesses. As you know, the Small Business Act requires about one out of every four federal government contracts to be rewarded to small businesses, a market segment worth about \$110 billion per year. In addition, the Act requires five percent of that business to be rewarded to minority-owned companies without a limit on how many contracts could be awarded to them.

These contracts are a great way to empower economic growth in these opportunity zones with companies that represent the local community. That is part of the reason why your work is so important. Again, I wish I could be there to discuss these opportunities in person. Please let me know of other OZBCF events in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "DM Payne, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress