

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 8, 2014

Dear Colleague:

The fastest growing startup companies are no longer just located in Silicon Valley, Austin or Boulder. All over America we are beginning to see the rapid development of startups into high-growth firms. Startups across the nation are developing in a variety of industries, from retail and healthcare to entertainment and education. They are using technology to solve problems and to create innovative products and services.

In each one of our districts, there are dozens of entrepreneurs who have established high-growth startups. Startup companies act as entrepreneurial leaders, innovators, and job creators within our communities.

According to the Kauffman Foundation, startups – particularly firms younger than five years old - are responsible for most net new jobs in the United States. Such statistics are notable when you consider that a majority of our nation's startup companies are younger than three years of age. Despite the fact that new startups are vital to our country's economic and job growth, many members of our communities may not know these innovative companies exist, and many startup companies may not know where to access the resources to help their company succeed.

That is why we are asking you to participate in Startup Day Across America taking place this year on August 5th. On that day, we encourage you to visit at least one startup company in your district. Your visit(s) will raise awareness of startup activity and job creation in your districts and help catalyze support for your local entrepreneurial community. It will also allow you to discuss the importance of entrepreneurship and innovation to the American economy.

Last year, over 30 bipartisan Members of the House and Senate participated in Startup Day Across America. Events for Startup Day Across America occurred across the entire country. This year, we hope to make waves both locally and nationally.

Last year, Startup Day was widely recognized by [Forbes](#) and participating Members received poignant and glowing articles in their local papers as well as [online tech websites](#) (and [here](#)). For example, Reps. [Yoder \(R-KS\)](#), [Wenstrup \(R-OH\)](#), [Southerland \(R-FL\)](#), [Delbene \(D-WA\)](#), [Israel \(D-NY\)](#), [Bishop \(D-NY\)](#), and [Eddie Bernice Johnson \(D-TX\)](#) were mentioned in their local papers for working to further innovation and business creation.

If you have any questions, or would like a list of startup companies in your district, suggested talking points or a sample press release for *Startup Day Across America*, please contact Eve Lieberman at eve.lieberman@mail.house.gov or 202-225-2161 in Congressman Polis' office.

Sincerely,


Jared Polis
Member of Congress


Darrell Issa
Member of Congress


Gary Peters
Member of Congress


Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress