

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1011

August 1, 2025

The Honorable Howard Lutnick  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Lutnick:

I write to urge the U.S. Department of Commerce to expeditiously reinstate the Urban League of Greater Atlanta's Capital Readiness Grant, which was awarded by the Commerce Department's Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA).

In 2023, the Urban League of Greater Atlanta secured a \$3 million Capital Readiness Grant to provide early support and technical assistance for Atlanta's entrepreneurs to help create jobs and continue to grow Georgia's economy.

In April 2025, the grant was cancelled following the issuance of an executive order directing the dismantling of the MBDA, denying a critical resource for entrepreneurs and job creators in Georgia.

In May, following a lawsuit from 21 state attorneys general, a Federal judge ordered that MBDA be reopened and that cancelled grants made to organizations in those states be restored because, in part, MBDA's justification for terminating those grants did not meet the relevant legal requirements needed for such a cancellation.

As the termination of the Urban League of Greater Atlanta's grant relied on a similar justification as that rejected by the Federal judge in that lawsuit, I strongly urge the Commerce Department to immediately review and reinstate the Urban League of Greater Atlanta's Capital Readiness grant. Continued failure to do so punishes job creators, hinders Georgia's economic growth, and denies critical services from being delivered to my constituents.

I request a written response within one week with an update on the status of the reinstatement of the Urban League of Greater Atlanta's Capital Readiness grant.

Respectfully,



Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator