

January 29, 2025

The Honorable Ted Cruz
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, District of Columbia 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, District of Columbia 20510

Dear Chairman Cruz and Ranking Member Cantwell,

ACT | The App Association supports the nomination of Michael Kratsios to serve as Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) in the White House. Mr. Kratsios has a track record of success in unifying a sprawling federal government around pro-growth policies that will benefit small business innovators.

The App Association is the leading trade group representing small business application developers and connected device companies in the United States and around the world. These companies drive a global app economy worth \$6.3 trillion, which supports 6.1 million American jobs. App Association members leverage the connectivity of smart devices to create innovative solutions that introduce new efficiencies across consumer and enterprise use cases. They rely on forward-thinking government that prioritizes unleashing small business growth and success in the app economy.

During the first Trump Administration, Mr. Kratsios led several initiatives that make him uniquely qualified for the OSTP Director role. He designed the first national artificial intelligence (AI) strategy, oversaw implementation of the National Quantum Initiative Act, and led a billion-dollar investment in research institutes to advance quantum and AI research and development in the United States. Notably, he undertook these major governmental actions, establishing the United States as a leader in AI governance, while avoiding saddling emerging technologies with unnecessary and costly regulation or liability. This kind of balance is crucial to protecting the incentive for private sector competitors to develop, deliver, and improve on AI services and quantum technologies. Small businesses reap the benefits when incentives to invest soar—and they are disproportionately harmed when investment dries up and capital-intensive technologies stagnate. Mr. Kratsios's approach would serve small business innovators' interests well.

We urge this Committee to quickly confirm Mr. Kratsios and look forward to working with you on related issues that affect App Association members in the 119th Congress.

Sincerely,



Morgan Reed
President

ACT | The App Association