

**Congress of the United States**  
**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Small Business**  
2361 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0315

**NOTICE OF FIELD HEARING**

**March 12, 2018**

**10:00 A.M., Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce**

**3 Independent Dr., Jacksonville, FL**

**TO: Members, Committee on Small Business**

**FROM: Steve Chabot, Chairman**

**DATE: Monday, March 5, 2018**

---

The Committee on Small Business will meet for a hearing titled, “Disparities in Access to Capital: What the Federal Government Is Doing to Increase Support For Minority Owned Firms.” The hearing is scheduled to begin at **10:00 A.M. on Monday, March 12, 2018 at the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, 3 Independent Dr., Jacksonville, FL.**

Small businesses owners, particularly women and minorities, face unique challenges when it comes to getting a loan to help them grow and create new jobs. At a time when minority-owned businesses are growing at a faster pace, they still secure financing at much lower levels than many other businesses. Without adequate access to capital, whether microloans, commercial lending, or investment capital, small minority firms cannot compete for government contracts, grow their business, or create jobs in their local communities. The hearing will focus on the challenges they face with Small Business Administration (SBA) lending programs, traditional bank loans, private investment capital, and other alternative financing.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Daniel Brown, Professional Staff for the Committee, at 202-225-5821.