

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 23, 2017

Mr. Jeff Bezos
CEO & Founder
Amazon.com
440 Terry Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98109

Dear Mr. Bezos:

We are writing regarding the recently completed merger between Amazon.com, Inc. and Whole Foods Market, Inc. Given Whole Foods' close ties to local small businesses across our country, we have followed the merger closely.

As you are aware, the close ties between small businesses and Whole Foods stem from a long term, strategic approach implemented by the company over many years. These positive relationships have not just benefited local businesses, but also helped area economies and local communities thrive. By enabling entrepreneurs and small firms to sell their products to a wider audience, this arrangement has created significant economic opportunity.

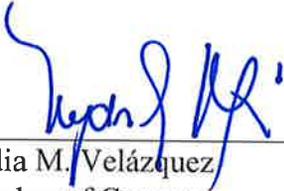
At a time when many large corporations merely consider Main Street an afterthought, this arrangement is to be commended. Whole Foods' endeavors helped foster a new era in shopping and eating local.

Unfortunately, recent reports suggest Amazon intends to move Whole Foods away from this model in favor of a centralized approach, removing many local entrepreneurs from the supply chain. While we understand your desire for greater efficiency, we are concerned about the impact this will have on small, local businesses in communities around the country. That is why we encourage you to maintain the commitment Whole Foods has made over the years to all these small, local suppliers. A shift away from this approach would affect hundreds of communities across the country, as well as thousands of businesses that have previously partnered with Whole Foods.

We hope Whole Foods continues prioritizing local small businesses, and that the relationships built over many years will not be jeopardized by the merger with Amazon. We believe that any erosion of Whole Foods' commitment to small firms would be a serious mistake. We urge you

to consider all options to ensure small, local companies remain an integral part of Whole Foods' sourcing.

Sincerely,



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress