



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 20, 2015

The United States is built on the idea that anyone willing to work hard should have the chance to succeed—regardless of who they are or where they come from. Since our earliest days, our Nation has cultivated innovation and ingenuity so that all our people might realize their piece of the American dream.

For 50 years, the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) has helped spur opportunity and foster economic development that has benefitted people across our country. Established in 1965 by the Public Works and Economic Development Act, EDA has worked diligently to bring our economy into the 21st century and to anticipate and prepare for the untold economic progress that lies ahead. By building partnerships with local entities and working to lift up lives in every state, EDA has invigorated our economy and enabled people to forge brighter futures for themselves, their families, and their communities.

I am pleased to congratulate EDA on half a century of dedicated service to the American people, and to thank the women and men who strive each day to generate prosperity and promise. I trust you take pride in all you have accomplished, and I wish you the very best for continuing your important work in the decades to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style.