

The original documents are located in Box 23, “2/12/76 - Remarks at the Swearing-in Ceremony for Mitchell P. Kobelinski as Administrator of the Small Business Administration” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY OF MITCHELL P. KOBELINSKI
AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
FEBRUARY 12, 1976

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MR. JUSTICE STEVENS

SECRETARY KLEPPE

MR. KOBELINSKI

MRS. KOBELINSKI

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

IT IS GOOD TO SEE ALL OF YOU HERE

FOR THE SWEARING IN OF MITCHELL KOBELINSKI TO BE

ADMINISTRATOR OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

~~Mr. Hunt Sec. K Leppel~~
~~Mr. Ambrosio~~
~~Mayor W.A.~~

BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE SMALL BUSINESS

PLAYS IN THE GROWTH OF A HEALTHY, VITAL ECONOMY,

I WELCOME A MAN OF MITCHELL'S OUTSTANDING TALENT

AND ACCOMPLISHMENT TO HEAD THE SMALL BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATION.

SINCE JULY OF 1973, MITCHELL HAS SERVED

AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES• BEFORE THAT,

HE DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF IN THE BUSINESS AND BANKING

COMMUNITIES IN CHICAGO -- AND HE NOW BRINGS HIS

EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE TO THIS KEY POSITION IN OUR

GOVERNMENT•

IN ADDITION, I WILL DESIGNATE MITCH

AS A MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENT'S ECONOMIC POLICY BOARD

WHICH OVERSEES THE FORMULATION, COORDINATION AND

IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL ECONOMIC POLICY.

THIS BOARD IS THE FOCAL POINT FOR ECONOMIC POLICY

DECISION-MAKING, BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL.

THE SON OF POLISH IMMIGRANTS,

MITCHELL KOBELINSKI IS A FINE EXAMPLE OF THE AMERICAN

DREAM COME TRUE.

IT IS ESPECIALLY SIGNIFICANT THAT HE IS
BEING SWORN IN ON A DAY WHEN MANY POLISH AMERICANS
COMMEMORATE THE BIRTH OF GENERAL KOSCIUSZKO
(KOS-KEY-USE-KO) WHO SERVED THE UNITED STATES
WITH SUCH DISTINCTION DURING OUR WAR OF INDEPENDENCE.●

I AM DELIGHTED TO SEE SO MANY LEADERS
OF OTHER ETHNIC COMMUNITIES HERE TODAY, TO SHARE
THIS IMPORTANT MOMENT WITH MITCHELL, HIS FAMILY
AND THE POLISH-AMERICAN COMMUNITY●



THE SMALL BUSINESS SECTOR OF OUR ECONOMY

IS VITAL TO JOB CREATION, COMPETITION, AND
TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION. IN THIS ERA OF BIGNESS,

OUR NATION NEEDS TO MAINTAIN AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH

SMALL BUSINESSES/PROVIDING ECONOMICALLY VALUABLE
PRODUCTS AND SERVICES/CAN FLOURISH.

IN OUR COUNTRY TODAY, OUR 9.4 MILLION
SMALL BUSINESS FIRMS EMPLOY ABOUT 55 PERCENT OF
THE PRIVATE SECTOR LABOR FORCE / AND PRODUCE ABOUT
48 PERCENT OF OUR GROSS BUSINESS PRODUCT.

THE CONTINUED GROWTH OF SMALL BUSINESS IS CRITICALLY

IMPORTANT / IF WE ARE GOING TO GENERATE THE EXPANDING

NUMBER OF PRODUCTIVE JOBS / OUR COUNTRY WILL NEED

IN THE COMING YEARS.

TO PROVIDE SMALL BUSINESSMEN WITH ADVICE
AND ASSISTANCE / AND TO PROMOTE THE INTERESTS OF THE
SMALL BUSINESS SECTOR, THE SMALL BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION WAS CREATED IN 1953, DURING
THE EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION.

THE INTENT OF THIS LEGISLATION WAS TO "AID, COUNSEL,

ASSIST AND PROTECT . . . THE INTERESTS OF SMALL

BUSINESS CONCERNS/IN ORDER TO PRESERVE COMPETITIVE

ENTERPRISE AS THE BASIS FOR ECONOMIC WELL-BEING AND

THE SECURITY OF THE NATION."

I SUPPORTED THE CREATION OF SBA IN 1953

AND I STRONGLY SUPPORT IT TODAY●

AS TANGIBLE PROOF OF THIS COMMITMENT, IN ORDER TO
INCREASE THE ABILITY OF THE SBA TO ASSIST IN FINANCING
THE MANY SMALL BUSINESSES / WHICH ARE UNABLE TO OBTAIN
NEEDED FINANCING IN COMMERCIAL MARKETS, / MY FISCAL
YEAR 1977 BUDGET REQUESTS / CALL FOR AN INCREASE OF
33 PERCENT IN THE SBA'S MAJOR LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM.

I AM VERY PLEASED TO HAVE SOMEONE
WITH MITCH KOBELINSKI'S ABILITY, PERCEPTION, AND
DEDICATION / ASSUMING THE LEAD ROLE IN SMALL BUSINESS
MATTERS FOR MY ADMINISTRATION -- AND I LOOK
FORWARD TO WORKING WITH MITCH IN FURTHERING THE
INTERESTS OF THE SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

AND NOW, JUSTICE STEVENS WILL ADMINISTER

THE OATH OF OFFICE.●

END OF TEXT