



A Letter to America, from State Business Executives

Dear America,

As we celebrate our nation's 250th birthday, let me make a strong and clear case for business and the role we play. Not an apologetic one, and not a defensive one. A proud one. Because as we mark 250 years of American enterprise, the executives on our Board— and across this country — have earned the right to stand up and say plainly: *we built this*.

For two and a half centuries, American business has been the engine of this nation's promise. Not a supporting player. The engine. It is through enterprise that capital becomes jobs, jobs become livelihoods, and livelihoods become the communities that hold this country together. Every factory floor, every headquarters decision, every market expanded and workforce invested in — these are not abstractions. They are the compounding proof that what we do matters.

State Business Executives know this as well as anyone. We sit at the intersection of commerce and community. We've navigated recessions and reinventions. We've made payroll in lean years and created opportunities in good ones. We've fought for the policy environments that let enterprises thrive, and we've stood accountable when our industries had to adapt. That is not a peripheral role in American life. It is central to it.

The story of American enterprise is not one story. It is built company by company, decision by decision, leader by leader — by people like you.

As America reaches its 250th birthday, this is our moment to tell that story with the confidence it deserves. We are joining business leaders across the country in sharing a Birthday Letter to America — a simple, direct acknowledgment of what we've built and what we're committed to building next.

With pride in what we've built — and what comes next,

Jeff Wasden, President & CEO
State Business Executives

Your turn.

We encourage every company and business across this great nation to write their own Birthday Letter to America — to your employees, your board, your community. Reflect on your company's role in this 250-year story. What have you built? What did it take? What comes next?

Keep it honest. Keep it bold. This is a moment for business leaders to speak — not with defensiveness, but with the confidence that comes from results.

Visit TF250.US/letter for free resources to get started. Submit your letter to be featured in the national showcase leading up to July 4th.

America is ready to hear from its builders.