

A Birthday Letter to America
August 19, 2026

Unlike other years, the celebration of America's birthday is not just centered around the Fourth of July holiday. The commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States will last all year, and rightfully so. This is not just a moment of patriotism. It is also a time to reflect on how far we have come as a country and what we want for our communities 250 years from now.

There are many reasons that make the United States an exceptional country and the freedom to start a small business is a major one. In many ways, the history of small business in the U.S. is intertwined with the country's overall history. For example, our Declaration of Independence laid out numerous reasons for establishing our own nation, including the ways it would save American business owners from the financial peril they were facing at the time. The Constitution of the United States then took great steps to create a pro-business environment through establishing the post office, simplifying trade, and protecting intellectual property for copyrights and patents.

In the centuries that followed, the U.S. experienced unprecedented growth that was seen in the success of Main Streets across the country. Millions of people from around the world have come to this country since its founding to experience the American Dream of building a business from the ground up. Additionally, the public sector has successfully partnered with the private sector to help get the United States through periods of crisis, including two world wars and the Space Race.

This is because a strong democracy and a thriving economy are inseparable. One only has to look at this success, as well as the countless inventions patented in the United States and the businesses that have launched, to see how this has worked in America's first 250 years. With that in mind, the private sector has both the responsibility and the opportunity to help shape the United States' next 250 years.

Every generation wants to make improvements that the next generation can experience. One of the greatest gifts we can give this semiquincentennial is to build upon the success of our ancestors by laying the foundation for a more equitable and prosperous economic future for the millions of Americans who will be starting their own business over the next 250 years.

Sincerely,



Rhett Buttle
Founder and CEO
Public Private Strategies

