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To Whom it may concern,

I was recently made aware of that the SBA is proposing to collect email addresses, names, and other identifying information from SBDC clients. This would essentially eliminate the privacy and confidentiality provisions currently in place. Knowing my identity and contact information would not be shared with other agencies was one of the reasons I sought assistance from the Small Business Development Center. As a small business owner, I do not have the staff or outside consultants to protect our identifiable information when seeking finance or discussing confidential matters with an advisor. I trust that the SBDC will not share this information. Therefore, I am concerned that sharing this information with a federal agency would compromise my privacy and lead to contacts for the wrong reasons. Knowing my confidential information will not be shared allows me to seek much-needed advising without worrying about revealing identifiable data. I do not mind sharing some information, such as the ability to understand how many businesses they assist, or knowing how many employees work for these businesses, but I don't understand how having my name, contact information, or other proprietary information would be of use to the government. I wonder if this information would be sold for marketing or other purposes. When I initially went to the SBDC I was concerned I would have to share the information I wouldn't want to share other than with my advisor. For that reason, I chose to work with the SBDC knowing they would protect my information and would not share it without my permission. If this information would now be available beyond my advisor at the SBDC I would think twice about asking for assistance. And knowing how many small businesses are currently in need of advising this action seems at cross-purposes to the intended goal.