

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1003

To modify the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 28, 2023

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

A BILL

To modify the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “FAST Fix Act of
5 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL AND STATE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP**
7 **PROGRAM.**

8 Section 34 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
9 657d) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
2 following:

3 “(11) UNDERPERFORMING STATE.—The term
4 ‘underperforming State’ means a State participating
5 in the SBIR or STTR program that has been cal-
6 culated by the Administrator to be one of 18 States
7 receiving the fewest SBIR and STTR Phase I
8 awards.”;

9 (2) in subsection (c)—

10 (A) in paragraph (1)—

11 (i) in subparagraph (E)—

12 (I) in clause (iii), by striking
13 “and” at the end;

14 (II) in clause (iv), by striking the
15 period at the end and inserting “;
16 and”;

17 (III) by adding at the end the
18 following:

19 “(v) to prioritize applicants located in
20 an underperforming State.”;

21 (B) in paragraph (2)(B)(vi)—

22 (i) in subclause (II), by striking
23 “and” at the end; and

24 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
25 lowing:

1 “(IV) located in an underper-
2 forming State; and”;

3 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “Not
4 more than one proposal” and inserting “There
5 is no limit on the number of proposals that”;
6 and

7 (D) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(6) ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR UNDERPER-
9 FORMING STATES.—Upon application by a recipient
10 that is located in an underperforming State, the Ad-
11 ministrators may—

12 “(A) provide additional assistance to the
13 recipient; and

14 “(B) waive the matching requirements
15 under subsection (e)(2).”;

16 (3) in subsection (e)—

17 (A) in paragraph (2)—

18 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

19 (I) by inserting “and STTR” be-
20 fore “first phase” each place that
21 term appears;

22 (II) in clause (i), by striking
23 “50” and inserting “25”; and

24 (III) in clause (iii), by striking
25 “75” and inserting “50”;

1 (ii) in subparagraph (D), by striking
2 “, beginning with fiscal year 2001” and in-
3 serting “and make publicly available on the
4 website of the Administration, beginning
5 with fiscal year 2023”; and

6 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(E) PAYMENT.—The non-Federal share
9 of the cost of an activity carried out by a recipi-
10 ent may be paid by the recipient over the course
11 of the period of the award or cooperative agree-
12 ment.”; and

13 (B) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(4) AMOUNT OF AWARD.—In carrying out the
15 FAST program under this section—

16 “(A) the Administrator shall make and
17 enter into awards or cooperative agreements;

18 “(B) each award or cooperative agreement
19 described in subparagraph (A) shall be for not
20 more than \$500,000, which shall be provided
21 over 2 fiscal years; and

22 “(C) any amounts left unused in the third
23 quarter of the second fiscal year may be re-
24 tained by the Administrator for future FAST
25 program awards.

1 “(5) REPORTING.—Not later than 6 months
2 after receiving an award or entering into a coopera-
3 tive agreement under this section, a recipient shall
4 report to the Administrator—

5 “(A) the number of awards made under
6 the SBIR or STTR program;

7 “(B) the number of applications submitted
8 for the SBIR or STTR program;

9 “(C) the number of consulting hours spent;

10 “(D) the number of training events con-
11 ducted; and

12 “(E) any issues encountered in the man-
13 agement and application of the FAST pro-
14 gram.”;

15 (4) in subsection (f)—

16 (A) in paragraph (1)—

17 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
18 graph (A)—

19 (I) by striking “Small Business
20 Innovation Research Program Reau-
21 thorization Act of 2000” and insert-
22 ing “FAST Fix Act of 2023”; and

23 (II) by inserting “and Entrepre-
24 neurship” before “of the Senate”;

1 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
2 “and” at the end;

3 (iii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
4 the period at the end and inserting “;
5 and”; and

6 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(D) a description of the process used to
9 ensure that underperforming States are given
10 priority application status under the FAST pro-
11 gram.”; and

12 (B) in paragraph (2)—

13 (i) in the paragraph heading, by strik-
14 ing “ANNUAL” and inserting “BIENNIAL”;

15 (ii) in the matter preceding subpara-
16 graph (A), by striking “an annual” and in-
17 serting “a biennial”;

18 (iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
19 “and” at the end;

20 (iv) in subparagraph (C), by striking
21 the period at the end and inserting a semi-
22 colon; and

23 (v) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(D) the proportion of awards provided to
2 and cooperative agreements entered into with
3 underperforming States; and

4 “(E) a list of the States that were deter-
5 mined by the Administrator to be underper-
6 forming States, and a description of any
7 changes in the list compared to previously sub-
8 mitted reports.”;

9 (5) in subsection (g)(2)—

10 (A) by striking “2004” and inserting
11 “2023”; and

12 (B) by inserting “and Entrepreneurship”
13 before “of the Senate”; and

14 (6) in subsection (h)(1), by striking
15 “\$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through
16 2005” and inserting “\$20,000,000 for every 2 fiscal
17 years between fiscal years 2023 through 2027, to be
18 obligated before the end of the second fiscal year”.

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