116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION S. 1409

To enhance the ability of the Office of the National Ombudsman to assist small businesses in meeting regulatory requirements and develop outreach initiatives to promote awareness of the services the Office of the National Ombudsman provides, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 9, 2019

Mrs. SHAHEEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

A BILL

- To enhance the ability of the Office of the National Ombudsman to assist small businesses in meeting regulatory requirements and develop outreach initiatives to promote awareness of the services the Office of the National Ombudsman provides, 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 "Small Business Regu-5 latory Relief Act of 2019".

1	SEC. 2. SBA REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT OMBUDSMAN.
2	Section 30(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
3	657(b)) is amended—
4	(1) in paragraph (2) —
5	(A) in subparagraph (A)—
6	(i) by striking "with each agency with
7	regulatory authority" and inserting the fol-
8	lowing: "with—
9	"(i) each Federal agency with regu-
10	latory authority";
11	(ii) by inserting "and" after the semi-
12	colon; and
13	(iii) by adding at the end the fol-
14	lowing:
15	"(ii) each Federal agency with regu-
16	latory authority over small business con-
17	cerns or that makes grants or enters into
18	contracts or cooperative agreements with
19	small entities (as defined in section 601 of
20	title 5, United States Code) to develop best
21	practices to assist the Federal agency in—
22	"(I) establishing a program to
23	assist small entities in meeting regu-
24	latory requirements imposed by that
25	Federal agency, including by respond-
26	ing to inquiries under section 213 of

	3
1	the Small Business Regulatory En-
2	forcement Fairness Act of 1996 (5
3	U.S.C. 601 note);
4	"(II) educating small entities
5	about the regulations of that Federal
6	agency that are applicable to small en-
7	tities;
8	"(III) training small entities to
9	comply with the regulations of that
10	Federal agency;
11	"(IV) assisting small entities in
12	completing forms relating to such
13	grants, contracts, or cooperative
14	agreements required by the regula-
15	tions of that Federal agency;
16	"(V) addressing any specific
17	question or concern of small entities;
18	"(VI) evaluating compliance
19	guides described under section 212 of
20	the Small Business Regulatory En-
21	forcement Fairness Act of 1996 (5
22	U.S.C. 601 note);
23	"(VII) ensuring that the compli-
24	ance guides described in subclause
25	(VI) are available to small business

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1	development centers and to other re-
2	source partners of the Administration;
3	and
4	"(VIII) developing webinars re-
5	lating to compliance assistance for—
6	"(aa) recently finalized rules
7	of the Federal agency; and
8	"(bb) rules relating to which
9	the Federal agency or Ombuds-
10	man receives a significant num-
11	ber of compliance inquiries from
12	small entities;";
13	(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking
14	"and" at the end;
15	(C) in subparagraph (E), by striking the
16	period at the end and inserting a semicolon;
17	and
18	(D) by adding at the end the following:
19	$((\mathbf{F})$ in collaboration with the employee of
20	a Federal agency designated by the head of the
21	Federal agency as the primary point of contact
22	with the Ombudsman, establish a procedure re-
23	lating to how the Federal agency will provide
24	information—

1	"(i) to small business concerns re-
2	garding the Ombudsman; and
3	"(ii) to the Ombudsman regarding the
4	nature, scope, and resolution of requests to
5	the Federal agency from small business
6	concerns about proposed, final, or existing
7	rules;
8	"(G) work with each Federal agency with
9	regulatory authority over small business con-
10	cerns and with programs of the Administration
11	(including the Service Corps of Retired Execu-
12	tives authorized under section $8(b)(1)(B)$, wom-
13	en's business centers operating under section
14	29, and small business development centers) to
15	conduct a robust outreach initiative, including
16	through the use of the Internet, to increase the
17	visibility of the Ombudsman and promote
18	awareness of the services available from the
19	Ombudsman; and
20	"(H) make information regarding the edu-
21	cation, training, and compliance assistance serv-
22	ices of the Ombudsman readily available on the
23	website of the Ombudsman."; and

24 (2) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) PRIMARY POINT OF CONTACT.—The head
 of each Federal agency with regulatory authority
 over small business concerns or that makes grants
 or enters into contracts or cooperative agreements
 with small business concerns shall designate an em ployee of the Federal agency as the primary point of
 contact with the Ombudsman.".

8 SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

9 Section 30 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657)
10 is amended by adding at the end the following:

11 "(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
12 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
13 such sums as are necessary.".

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