

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2142

To allow remote participation on review panels under the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 17, 2019

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To allow remote participation on review panels under the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 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 “Helping Entrepreneurs  
5 Affects Regulatory Decisions Act of 2019” or the  
6 “HEARD Act of 2019”.

7 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY**  
8 **ACT.**

9 Section 609(b) of title 5, United States Code, is  
10 amended—

1           (1) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, through an  
2 in-person meeting or by electronic participation,”  
3 after “panel”;

4           (2) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” at the  
5 end;

6           (3) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at  
7 the end and inserting “; and”; and

8           (4) by adding at the end the following:

9           “(7) a covered agency shall take reasonable  
10 steps to ensure that representatives of small entities  
11 may participate electronically in a review panel con-  
12 vened under this subsection.”.

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