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MARKUP OF: H.R. 1163, PROVE IT ACT OF 2025; H.R. 2027, RETURNING SBA TO MAIN STREET ACT; H.R. 2987, CAPPING EXCESSIVE AWARDING OF SBLC ENTRANTS (CEASE) ACT; H.R. 2931, SAVE SBA FROM SANCTUARY CITIES ACT; H.R. 2968, BUSINESS OVER BALLOTS ACT; H.R. 2965, SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY REDUCTION ACT OF 2025; H.R. 2966, AMERICAN ENTREPRENEURS FIRST ACT

HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

HEARING HELD
APRIL 30, 2025

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS,
Washington, DC.

The Committee met, pursuant to call, at 9:49 a.m., in Room 2360, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Roger Williams [chairman of the Committee] presiding.

Present: Representatives Williams, Meuser, Van Duyne, Alford, LaLota, Finstad, Bresnahan, Schmidt, Velázquez, McGarvey, McIver, Cisneros, Morrison, Olszewski, Conaway, and Goodlander.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The committee will now come to order. A quorum is present and without objection, the Chair is authorized to declare a—a a new Chair here for minute. Here you go. Without objection, the Chair is authorized to declare a recess of the committee at any time.

Before we get into the main business today, I want to ask unanimous consent to waive Mr. Jimmy Patronis from the great state of Florida on to the committee. He will serve as a Member of the Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations, the Subcommittee on Rural Development, Energy, and Supply Chains, and the Subcommittee on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Workforce Development. Without objection, so moved.

As required by the House rules a copy of the legislative measures have been made available to Members and the public at least 24 hours in advance, and pursuant to committee rule 13 and House rule 11, all votes will be rolled at the end of the meeting.

And like the last markup we will use electronic voting. Without objection, the committee will vote electronically in accordance with the committee rules and regulations developed by the Committee on Rules and House Administration.

I now recognize myself for opening remarks. Here on this committee we stand up for hard-working entrepreneurs and small business owners. We understand that it is our job to put forward meaningful policy solutions that encourage growth and make it easier, not harder, for small businesses to grow and to thrive.

In today's markup, we will consider seven bills that address the needs of small business owners across the country. These bills take steps to restore accountability and trust in the Small Business Administration. We have a job on this committee to be a voice for main street here in Washington.

Under the Biden-Harris administration small businesses and endured an unprecedented regulatory assault. Those policies continually undermine the SBA's mission and its core functions. The bills in this markup correct those wrongs and support the Trump administration policies to ensure that the federal government puts American entrepreneurs first again.

Last Congress this committee fought job-killing regulatory burdens that shackled small businesses. We even heard from small business owners that they were told by government officials that the goal was to drive small businesses out of business.

To add insult to injury, the Biden administration removed the SBA lending standards to put American tax dollars at risk by approving loans for borrowers who were not able to repay them. For 4 years the Biden-Harris SBA moved the agency and its employees further away from its mission of serving Main Street America.

The SBA began unprecedented activity like electioneering and approving loans for illegal immigrants. This committee and the Trump administration have heard small business loud and clear that guardrails must be put up and is what Administrator Loeffler has done in just a few months as SBA administrator.

Today's bills work to ensure that no future administration will be able to end this kind of assault on small businesses. Those common sense bills are another step forward in unleashing small business from the government burdens to bring about the golden age of main street.

As Chairman I am committed to funding or defining real legislative solutions to help small businesses grow and thrive. I would like to thank our Members for bringing these bills forward for consideration in today's markup. And I am incredibly proud to see our committee generating sound, responsive legislation to support Main Street America.

With that, I yield to my friend and my distinguished Ranking Member from New York, Ms. Velázquez.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome Mr. Patronis to the committee, and we look forward to working with you throughout this Congress.

But, Mr. Chairman, before I make my statement I just have to put into the record the fact that there hasn't been presented any shred of evidence that undocumented immigrants have been given any loans. And if there exists any evidence, please bring it forward.

And the first thing that you need to do is to get the administrator to come before this committee and testify about the many issues that we need to tackle within the Small Business Administration.

Let me begin by saying that the timing and content of this mark-up is ill-conceived. We are in the midst of reconciliation and a vast majority of our Members cannot attend due to conflicts. It doesn't make sense to move controversial bills without giving all Members a fair opportunity to participate and offer amendments.

Aside from the Member conflicts, these bills, which put major organizational changes into statute having been vetted and no oversight has been conducted.

Committee Democrats sent five letters to Administrator Loeffler on some of these issues and they have all gone unanswered. We need the information and the administrator should be here testifying on the mass firings, program costs, relocation of district and regional offices, and new changes to the lending programs.

Instead, we are getting stonewalled by the administration and marking up bills without hearings, briefings, or any vetting on some of these policies.

Small businesses are concerned about tariffs and we should be working together to hold an oversight hearing on the administration's reckless policies that have wreaked havoc, chaos, and confusion across our country. And by the way, the GDP report released this morning indicates our economy shrank 0.3 percent over the last 100 days.

According to the MetLife and Chamber of Commerce Small Business Index, only 29 percent of small businesses feel good about the nation's health and 58 percent ranked inflation as their top concern. Let's not forget President Trump promised to lower inflation. Instead, he picked a fight on tariffs with Canada, Mexico, and other countries.

Prices are beginning to surge and small businesses are paying the price. The Wall Street Journal recently reported on several small businesses that are on the verge of extinction because they cannot afford the added costs.

And if that is not bad enough, the policy can be changed with a tweet causing undue uncertainty for small businesses. I would like to enter the Wall Street Journal article into the record.

Chairman WILLIAMS. So moved.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. With that said, I cannot support the certain bills we are considering today because the process has been ill-conceived. I ask of the Chairman again that he demand Administrator Loeffler testify to explain the reorganization and programmatic policy changes before marking up these bills.

Thank you and I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Does any other Member seek recognition for the purpose of making an opening statement? Okay. Seeing none, we will now move to consideration of the first bill.

H.R. 2968

The committee now moves into consideration of H.R. 2968, the Business Over Ballots Act that I introduced earlier this month. The clerk will report the bill.

The CLERK. H.R. 2968, a bill to limit the authority of the Small Business Administration——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, H.R. 2968 is considered as read and open for amendment. I have an amendment in the

nature of a substitute at the desk that has been distributed in advance. The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2968 offered by Mr. Williams——

Chairman WILLIAMS. So moved. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read and the substitute will be considered as base text for the purpose of further amendment. I now recognize myself for a statement on the bill and the amendment.

The SBA is many things to a small business. They can help with everything from facilitating business loans to helping veterans find a pathway to entrepreneurship. What the SBA is not, however, is a voter registration arm of a presidential reelection campaign. But that is what the Biden-Harris administration attempted turn the SBA into until this committee found out and launched an extensive investigation into the matter last year.

After stonewalling us for months, I issued three subpoenas to the SBA resulting in a treasure trove of documents. The documents revealed that the Biden-Harris SBA tried to cut deals with swing states to encourage in electioneering, including with the governor and the secretary of state of Michigan. The SBA moved so far beyond of helping main street start businesses that the agency was almost unrecognizable.

This bill makes it clear that the role of the Small Business Administration is to help small businesses, not register voters. This bill is common sense, and I hope my colleagues across the aisle agree that there is no room for electioneering at the SBA.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Does anyone else wish to speak on the bill and the amendment?

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman WILLIAMS. Mr. Meuser from the great state of Pennsylvania.

Mr. MEUSER. Thank you Mr. Chairman. Your bill, the Business Over Ballots Act, would prevent the SBA from using their valuable taxpayer-funded resources to further the political campaign of presidential candidates as it occurred under the previous administration under Administrator Guzman.

Not that our new administration or leadership, new administrator or leadership would expend valuable resources on such activities, but during a time when our nation's small business owners were struggling with suffocating inflation, burdensome regulations, workforce shortages, and difficulty accessing capital, the SBA prioritized their efforts to inappropriately influence the election prospects of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris.

Along with entering into a new voter registration memorandum of understanding with the Michigan Department of State, the SBA hired Jennifer Kim as an associated administrator in the office of field operations, if I recall correctly, at a salary of something like $225,000.

Unlike many employees at the SBA, Ms. Kim specialized primarily in politicizing, in political organizing, campaigning, and registering voters. Ironically, her only previous experience with small business was what one would describe as a left wing environ-

mentalist organization that campaigned for increased government regulations that very often were harmful to small businesses.

Thankfully, under the leadership of Administrator Loeffler, we now have an SBA that is actually focused on the need of America's small businesses and not electioneering in swing districts.

Mr. Chairman, this legislation is essential to prevent gross administrative malpractice and to ensure that the SBA focuses solely on its mission to aid, counsel, assist, and protect the interests of small business.

Using agencies to campaign politically is wrong, is not ethical, it violates the Hatch Act, and if we do not fix this now permanently we perhaps could be perceived as endorsing the actions of the previous administration.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

Does anyone else wish to speak on the bill and the amendment?

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman WILLIAMS. Yes. You don't have anybody?

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. I don't think so.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Okay. Seeing none, I would like to recognize the Ranking Member to speak on the bill and the amendment.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Thank you, Mr. Williams. I am opposed to H.R. 2968. In the last Congress, the majority launched a heavy-handed investigation issuing multiple subpoenas of public servants and firing off numerous oversight letters demanding documents without a scope from SBA and the White House. And after a year-long investigation into SBA's actions and 3 business days before the markup we received a copy of this bill.

I am curious. Why aren't we applying the same level of robust oversight to the administration's reorganization and relocation of the regional offices?

Let's set the record straight. The bipartisan—bipartisan—National Voter Registration Act allows states to designate federal agencies as voter registration agencies. That is the law.

To that end, SBA and the Michigan Department of State signed a memorandum of understanding, or MOU, allowing the Michigan Department of State to create a unique URL to place on SBA's website to drive online voting registration. It permitted the Michigan Department of State to register voters at SBA district office outreach events in Michigan. The cost to the American taxpayers were minimal.

And despite loud claims to the contrary, resources were not diverted from small businesses. The committee was briefed by SBA, information was shared, and thousands of pages of documents were provided. We have had multiple hearings where the majority's claims were thoroughly debunked.

We have sat through two transcribed interviews of SBA employees and yet no evidence was uncovered to support their claims. It is unsettling that the majority wants to offer a bill to prohibit the SBA from promoting voter registration.

The previous administrator testified that no one used the link to register to vote. The link is no longer on the SBA's website. It is a non-issue.

This bill is purely a messaging bill designed to distract us from the president's intentional tanking of the economy and the resulting tumbling of the market. I am opposed to this measure, and I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Okay. The gentlelady yields back. I thank you.

And does anyone else wish to offer an amendment? Yes, sir? For what purpose does the gentleman seek recognition?

Mr. CONAWAY. I have an amendment at the desk.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Okay. There is an amendment at the desk. We will briefly pause while staff distributes the amendment.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize the Mr. Conaway, Dr. Conaway, for 5 minutes on the amendment.

Mr. CONAWAY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated, I would like to offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2968, the Business Over Ballots Act. I oppose H.R. 2968 because the basis for this bill is unfounded.

For context, in March of 2024, the SBA with the Michigan Department of State signed a memorandum of agreement under which the SBA did the following: placed a link on the Michigan district office website, the Michigan Department of State's existing online voter registration form and agreed to allow the Michigan Department of State staff to conduct in-person voter registration events.

These actions are consistent with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 wherein "state governments may designate entities, including federal agencies, as voter registration agencies responsible for facilitating access to voter registration."

Now, who could be against that activity? It is the number one item or right that protects freedom here in our country.

The House Small Business Committee Republicans launched an investigation alleging that activities were not within the statutory mission of the SBA. Ultimately, their investigations amounted to nothing as on September 18th Administrator Guzman testified before the committee that zero individuals had registered as a result of this link.

In reality under the Biden administration, the SBA helped increase small business growth and development with more than 20 million new small business applications being processed by the SBA resulting in 60 million new jobs and driving unemployment to historic lows.

With the SBA's shrinking workforce the agency already has a limited capacity to manage their ultimate directive, which is to serve and advance the growth of the American small business. Adding the student loan portfolio under the jurisdiction of the SBA runs contrary to the House's projected ethos of government efficiency.

H.R. 2968 is purely a messaging bill meant to distract the public from the actions undertaken by the Trump administration to deci-

mate federal agencies like the SBA in the name of government efficiency while adding programs like the student loan portfolio, which my amendment would prohibit, would be consistent with the SBA's overriding mission to support and develop small businesses in our country.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment so that we can focus on the real issues that small businesses are facing, not manufactured ones. With that, I will close my statement on my amendment.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

Is there any further debate on the amendment?

Mr. Meuser from the great state of Pennsylvania.

Mr. MEUSER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I oppose this amendment requesting documents and communications from the SBA as an exercise—oh, I am sorry. We have got the Conaway amendment. I began in the wrong spot, my apologies.

The administration is looking into ways into restructuring the administration of federal student loans in a manner that would allow them to operate more efficiently and effectively. The SBA is a candidate to take over this responsibility.

This amendment would prevent the administration and Congress from moving forward from even considering this proposal. Further, this amendment is not germane to the narrow scope of the underlying bill. I urge my colleagues to vote no.

I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Okay. The gentleman yields back.

Is there any further debate on the amendment?

Okay. I move to strike the last word. Conaway amendment No. 182968, unfortunately, this amendment is an attempt to distract from the fact that the Biden administration was attempting to register Democratic voters in a swing state during the last presidential election.

Utilizing executive branch agencies to interfere in elections is unacceptable, and I urge my colleagues to vote against this amendment.

Is there any further debate on the amendment?

Mr. MCGARVEY. I have got to read a statement.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Okay. Mr. McGarvey from the great state of Kentucky.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and our Ranking Member Ms. Velázquez, who is not here will make remarks on her behalf. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Our colleagues have raised serious concerns about the deeply misguided proposal to transfer student loans to the SBA. We have requested additional information from the administrator on the proposal but have not received any answers on how such a transfer would occur and what will be required of the SBA.

We continue to believe there will be negative consequences for both students and small businesses if this proposal were to become a reality, especially without any congressional oversight.

I applaud Dr. Conaway for offering this amendment today and make it clear that the student loan portfolio cannot be moved to SBA by executive decree and urge all of colleagues to support it.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

The question now occurs on the amendment offered by the gentleman—from Dr. Conaway.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

All right. Now, does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Okay. A recorded vote has been requested and a roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Mr. MCGARVEY. I will offer an amendment.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Okay. There is an amendment at the desk. We will briefly pause while staff distributes the amendment.

Okay. The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2968——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize Mr. McGarvey from Kentucky for 5 minutes on the amendment.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I offer this amendment on behalf of Ranking Member Velázquez, who has to be in another markup right now. Ms. Velázquez's amendment would require the SBA to provide the committee with information on the administration's deeply misguided proposal to transfer the student loan portfolio to the SBA.

It is unclear to what extent the administrator was involved in these discussions or decisions prior to the president's announcement, but given the massive cost of administering and servicing student loans that would be imposed on the SBA additional congressional action and oversight is warranted.

The committee must have this information to understand the impact on small businesses, the SBA and its programs, staff, resources, and legal authorities, as well as the student loan borrowers. I therefore urge all of my colleagues to support Ms. Velázquez's amendment.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

I now recognize Ms. Van Duyne from the great state of Texas.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Thank you very much. Requesting documents and communications from the SBA is an exercise that is completely out of scope for this amendment, particularly for student loan administration that has not yet begun at the agency, so the bill that we have drafted here today is plain and simple.

Though my colleagues on the other side of the aisle do not believe that the SBA should be involved with administering student loans, I get that, but they should be focused on making sure that no federal agency should be involved in influencing elections. And I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentlelady yields back.

Is there further debate on the amendment? Okay. I move to strike the last word, and this bill is solely focused on the voter registration activity of the SBA, not an oversight exercise to gain access to internal communications at the SBA.

The SBA lost its way under the last administration and must be refocused to serve America's Main Street and not register voters. So, I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

Is there further debate on the amendment? The question now occurs on the amendment offered by myself from Texas—oh, Mr. McGarvey, I am sorry, from Kentucky.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, no.

In the opinion the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Chairman, Ms. Velázquez would like to request a recorded vote.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Okay. A recorded vote has been requested and a roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment? The question now occurs on the adoption of the substitute amendment offered to H.R. 2968 by me.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it. The amendment in the nature of the substitute H.R. 2968 is adopted.

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Chair?

Chairman WILLIAMS. The question—okay. The question is now on favorably reporting H.R. 2968 as amended to the House.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair——

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Chair?

Chairman WILLIAMS. You are recognized. Yes. For what purpose does the gentleman seek recognition?

Mr. ALFORD. I ask for a recorded vote, please.

Chairman WILLIAMS. A recorded vote has been requested. A roll call vote is ordered, so pursuant to committee rule 13 and House rule 11, further proceedings on the bill are postponed.

H.R. 2027

The committee now moves to consideration of H.R. 2027, the Returning SBA to Main Street Act introduced by Representative Alford from the great state of Missouri.

The clerk will report the bill.

The CLERK. H.R. 2027, a bill to require the administrative——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, H.R. 2027 considered as read and open for amendment. The bill's sponsor, Mr. Alford, has an amendment in the nature of a substitute at the desk. The amendment has been distributed in advance and the clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2027 offered by Mr. Alford——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read and the substitute will be considered as base text for the purpose of further amendment.

I now recognize the sponsor of the bill and the amendment, Mr. Alford from Missouri, for a statement.

Mr. ALFORD. Well, thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you for this markup session Ranking Member Velázquez.

Look, this committee exists in Congress to champion main street. That is what we are all about. That is what we will continue to be all about under the direction of our Chairman to make sure that small businesses that employ about half of all Americans can continue to thrive.

Our role is to help lower the barriers to creating small businesses and to support small businesses that already exist with the capital and counseling that they need to survive.

For 4 years the SBA stepped away from that core mission. Under the previous administration, the SBA deliberately pulled back from the field their staff, they stayed home and stayed focused on the registering Democratic voters.

Did everyone get that? Instead of doing their jobs they were more concentrated about registering Democrat voters. And this is why we are proud to introduce the Returning SBA to Main Street Act to force the SBA out of the swamp and back on main street.

By relocating these workers, Mr. Chairman, into the communities that they serve, we can provide our nation's small businesses with the support they deserve and reduce wasteful spending on unused office space that we personally saw on our miniature codel over there almost 2 years ago now.

I am proud to work with Chair Joni Ernst on this critical legislation to drain the swamp and ignite a new golden age for the backbone of our economy, America's small businesses. I strongly support this legislation and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Let's get back to main street and back to the business of doing business in America, and I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back. And does anyone else wish to speak on the bill and the amendment? Okay. If none and seeing none, I would like to recognize—I am sorry. Okay, I have got you.

I recognize from Kentucky.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Mr. Williams, and on behalf of our Ranking Member Ms. Velázquez I want to say that I am opposed to H.R. 2027 the Returning SBA to Main Street Act. I agree that main street is a major, massive priority, but this bill is another messaging bill that attacks federal employees and will harm our nation's 34 million small businesses.

The vast majority of the SBA's workforce is already in the field in either loan or processing centers or in the 68 district offices and 10 regional offices. As of December 2024, only 12 percent of SBA's workforce was located at its headquarters and these employees are focused on programmatic matters.

The SBA had roughly 640 employees in their district offices who were specifically trained to provide customer service to small businesses, but here is the reality. The new administrator is cutting the workforce by 43 percent and without a clear coordinated strategy.

I am hearing that has resulted in a 20 percent reduction to field operations staff, but I would love to have her come and testify to this committee and explain the situation and the staffing numbers to us in person so we can better understand this.

I ask my colleagues, does this bill relocate 30 percent of employees at headquarters to other parts of the country? Does it make any sense if we are left with minimal employees? How can we relocate employees if we have no idea what the agency staffing reality is and where the staff are even left in each office and location around the country? Put simply, it does not.

It is a messaging bill designed to distract us from the harmful tariff policies that are fueling inflation across the country. In the end, small businesses will bear the brunt of these ill-conceived policies.

If Republicans want more people in the field then they shouldn't have fired or forced people into early retirements. They should have invested in the employees who are specifically trained in customer service outreach and engagement.

This bill also comes with a hefty price tag and does nothing to control government spending. The SBA signed a 20-year lease in November 2020 and the cost of breaking the lease will run in the millions. And there is a cost to relocating employees to other parts of the country, even if the agency is not paying the relocation expenses.

I would like to enter into the record a letter from the American Federation of Government Employees and the AFL-CIO stating, "this bill will cause the loss of highly trained and skilled SBA employees with decades of institutional knowledge, training, and expertise in their local market and established connections to local lenders and small businesses allowing them to provide critical services to the American public in times of need."

Chairman WILLIAMS. So moved.

Mr. MCGARVEY. AFGE goes on to write that "this bill will limit an employee's ability to participate in union activities, including limiting protections under the collective bargaining agreement or master labor agreement and banning a private right of action for wrongful termination."

In closing, I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill that will harm SBA employees and diminish services to America's 34 million small businesses. Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. And I will recognize myself for a statement. I rise in support of H.R. 2027, the Returning SBA to Main Street Act introduced by my friend Representative Alford from the great state of Missouri.

Main Street America is filled with small businesses that provide all types of goods and services. From small manufacturers to cutting edge innovators, these entrepreneurs are located all over our great nation. Yet in true fashion of the federal bureaucracy, the agency tasked with assisting main street isn't located on main street, but in Washington, D.C..

Since day one, President Trump has issued executive orders to streamline the government. This led Administrative Loeffler to take action last month. She announced that at least 30 percent of the SBA staff are relocating to where small businesses are, simply on main street.

So, by moving the SBA employees back to main street, H.R. 2027 will ensure that the SBA is more responsive and in tune with small

businesses across this great country. So, I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Mr. CONAWAY. I have an amendment at the desk.

Chairman WILLIAMS. So recognized. There is an amendment at the desk, and we will briefly pause while staff distributes the amendment.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2027 offered by Mr.——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize the gentlewoman—or Dr. Conaway, I am sorry, Doctor, for the amendment.

Mr. CONAWAY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2027, the Returning SBA to Main Street Act.

On March 21, 2025, SBA Administrator Kelly Loeffler announced an agency-wide reorganization that includes a 43 percent workforce reduction. Additionally, according to the American Federation of Government Employees, there is a large amount of pressure for employees to leave the voluntary separation via—or rather the voluntary separation incentive payment or a reduction in force. These reductions in force remain under way at the SBA.

These actions have essentially kneecapped the SBA by shrinking an already understaffed workforce. H.R. 2027 would relocate 30 percent of SBA employees from headquarters to other parts of the country and is, unfortunately, another messaging bill that further puts strain on the federal workforce.

This bill will ultimately hurt the 34 million small businesses in the United States, which are the engine of employment in our economy and our country.

Moreover, this bill is not necessary because the majority of the workforce is currently in the field. Along with being in the field, the SBA is being directed to shrink their workforce. What we should be doing is advocating for an increase in resources to the SBA so they can continue to drive our economy, the economy in our country.

SBA district offices need to conduct outreach, engagement, and customer services. That should be our goal, not to target federal employees in the name of government efficiency. My amendment would require the U.S. Government Accountability Office to conduct an analysis of the SBA administrator's reorganization plan.

Under the bill the following would be required: the cost of terminating or modifying the leases on government, that is SBA, buildings and offices and relocation costs for federal employees; the effect such a plan would have on legally binding collective bargaining agreements; the effect of the transfers on SBA's performance program and services provided to small businesses; a description of any challenges faced with the relocation of the agency's workforce; a detailed and comprehensive estimate of the cost of these reforms; and an explanation as to how they will be funded.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. With that, I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

Is there any further debate on the amendment?

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Chair?

Chairman WILLIAMS. Yes, sir, what does the gentleman need?

Mr. ALFORD. Debate on the amendments, sir.

Chairman WILLIAMS. All right. I now recognize Mr. Alford from Missouri.

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Chair, this amendment creates just another bureaucratic hurdle that is going to create even more delays in the needed reforms of the Small Business Administration. A yearlong review process? It is only going to slow down the agency's ability to be responsive to small businesses, another year of delays for analysis is just going to hurt our small business owners even further.

Instead of prioritizing main street, this amendment protects SBA headquarters' staff while missing the point of the SBA priorities, which is to serve small business owners, not federal employees.

Let me repeat this. The SBA's mission is not to protect the federal employees. It is to protect and grow small businesses on main street.

At the time when the SBA should be cutting red tape, this amendment adds more of it by forcing the SBA to spend more time, more resources, more energy, more people on duplicative reporting instead of delivering real results for the American people and America's small businesses.

Mr. Chair, I highly recommend that we vote no on this amendment, and let's get this thing done and get to concentrating on Main Street America. That is what the president United States wants. That is what the administrator wants, Kelly Loeffler, and that is what this committee should be all about.

And with that, I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

Is there any further debate on the amendment?

I now recognize Mr. McGarvey from Kentucky.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And on behalf of our Ranking Member Ms. Velázquez, I applaud Dr. Conaway for offering this common sense amendment that would have GAO review any proposal to relocate staff that is based on numbers. And that is what we need to do.

So, we are here to protect main street. We are here to protect small businesses. We want to do things that make sense. It would be really helpful if the administrator would come and answer any of these questions here.

But again, only 12 percent of the workforce is based out of SBA headquarters and arbitrarily moving some employees with no coordination with the administration's 43 percent workforce reduction does not make sense at this time.

Instead, the GAO should review these ill-conceived plans for the actual impact on the small businesses that rely on the SBA for loans, contracting, disaster assistance, and other SBA programs that impact their businesses and livelihoods.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment, and, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. I move to strike the last word and let me say this. This amendment will cause unnecessary delay, and thus, I urge my colleagues to simply vote against it.

The question now occurs on the amendment offered by myself—or by Mr. Conaway, I am sorry, from him.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, of the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

A recorded vote has been requested. A roll call vote is ordered and further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Ms. MCIVER. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

Chairman WILLIAMS. There is an amendment at the desk. We will briefly pause while staff distributes the amendment. Okay. The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R.——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

And I now recognize Congresswoman McIver for 5 minutes on the amendment.

Ms. MCIVER. Thank you, Chairman, and thank you to the Ranking Member. Today I am offering an amendment in response to the extraordinary instability we see at the Small Business Administration and the lack of communication from the SBA administrator has shown to Members of this committee.

My amendment would prevent this bill from taking effect unless the SBA administrator appears before this committee to testify about her reorganization plan for the SBA.

This week marked the first 100 days since the Trump administration assumed control of the SBA. Before this administration, the SBA helped guide millions of small businesses out of the chaos of COVID-19 pandemic and into an era of historic growth under the Biden-Harris administration.

In just the last 100 days, we have seen a spree of firings, announced plans to shutter critical needed SBA offices with no replacements, and plans to shift the entire federal student loan portfolio to SBA, all of this occurring while the SBA continues with its plans to cut nearly half of its workforce.

Despite these dramatic and disruptive changes, the administrator has yet to appear before this committee to explain the SBA's recent actions or present any vision for the agency's future. This lack of transparency is unacceptable, and it should be unacceptable to everyone here on this committee.

Earlier this month, the SBA even announced an internal investigation targeting staff for speaking to press and communicating with former colleagues. This is a clear attempt to silence whistleblowers and conceal the full extent of the administrator's destructive mismanagement of SBA.

So now we have a situation where the SBA administrator is not facing any meaningful oversight, which is our job, while the SBA tries to intimidate its own staff for speaking out about how the

agency is being run. How can Congress legislate for the American people without the facts on the ground?

Our small businesses deserve better. Congress deserves answers and the American people deserve an SBA that is stable, accountable, and focused on helping entrepreneurs, not serving an economically destructive political agenda or operating in secrecy.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment. With that, I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentlelady yields back. And is there further debate on the amendment?

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Chair?

Chairman WILLIAMS. I now recognize Mr. Finstad for 5 minutes.

Mr. FINSTAD. Thank you, Mr. Chair. This amendment could significantly delay the process of bringing SBA employees back to underserved areas and creates unnecessary bottlenecks. The requirements for testimony introduces an additional layer that delays face-to-face communication by the SBA to our small businesses.

And, in fact, this bill, the underlying bill that we are talking about here today, really is all about Congress taking control of the direction and the shortfalls of SBA. And so with that being said, I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

Is there any further debate on the amendment?

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Chair?

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman is recognized.

Mr. ALFORD. Over here, sir.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Okay. Yes sir.

Mr. ALFORD. Look, Kelly Loeffler is not here today. We are here today to mark up this bill to get it out to get the SBA out into Main Street America.

And I know that the Member who offered this amendment, Ms. McIver, was not here I believe during our last term, but I was. And a lot of people were here who are sitting here now who repeatedly asked for Administrator Guzman to come and explain herself as to why she was turning the SBA into an electioneering arm of the Democrat party?

Now, she refused to do that. We went to see her at her office. She gave us a little tour as she collapsed the workforce into one floor to make it look like they were actually doing their job at the SBA, but we saw through that. And she finally showed up towards the end of the last term.

Now, look, this is a bipartisan committee. We have got to work together to make sure the SBA is doing its job and getting back to the job of making things grow on main street, but we can't have this type of duplicitous rancor, this disingenuousness.

And so, I strongly urge a no vote on this amendment. It is not right to try to force Kelly Loeffler to come here after only being in office for 100 days and a big job to do right now while Ms. Guzman refused to come.

So with that, I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

Ms. MORRISON. Mr. Chair? Mr. Chairman?

Chairman WILLIAMS. Yes, ma'am. Ms. Morrison.

Ms. MORRISON. May I respond?

Chairman WILLIAMS. Yes you can.

Ms. MORRISON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield my time to Mrs. McIver.

Ms. MCIVER. Thank you so much, Dr. Morrison, to my colleague. First of all, I don't know why it is being mentioned about where I was last time and last term, which I was here last term. But anyway, oversight is our job.

Oversight is necessary, so saying that this amendment is unnecessary is, quite honestly, crazy. It is what our job is here in Congress. We are supposed to provide oversight and that is what we should be doing, so it is very necessary.

Secondly, I don't care how long the SBA administrator has been on the job. That is not an excuse for the administrator coming before this committee to talk with us and answer questions so we are not assuming or guessing about what is happening.

This, you know, Congress is trying to operate and without clear answers we are not able to legislate and do our job.

Thirdly, yes, we want to work. We want to be in a bipartisan situation and work together, you know, yeah, bipartisan committee. We want to work together, however, we are not being included and none of our amendments or anything that we are suggesting or working with us across the aisle is not being considered, so that is a problem.

So, I am happy that across the aisle my colleague acknowledged that we are bipartisan. Well, let's start acting like it. With that I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentlelady yields back. Is there further debate on the amendment? Okay.

The gentleman is recognized from Kentucky.

All right. Who is that? Oh, Ms. Van Duyne from the great state of Texas is recognized.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would just add that if there are questions, instead of waiting until our next meeting why don't they just go ahead and request them directly from the administrator? You have the means to be able to do that. Write a letter. All of our offices do that.

So, if you have got specific questions that you want answered ask them from the administration. There is no need to uphold and wait and wait and wait and delay this action except to just delay it.

So again, we submitted a lot of questions that never got answered from the previous administration over and over again. We requested a number of times the administrator to come and visit.

If we had upheld having any kind of bills move through our committee simply waiting to have somebody come and testify that would have been ridiculous. So, you have got the means to be able to do it. Just write a letter.

I am going to put the rest of my time to my gentle colleague, Mr. Alford.

Mr. ALFORD. Thank you, Ms. Van Duyne.

And, Mr. Chair, I just want to correct the record because I love this committee. I know you do, too. I think everyone on this committee loves this committee but we have to deal in a place of truth.

I do want to correct the record. The Member from the other side, first my apologies for not recognizing your commitment to this committee last term. I sincerely apologize for that.

But secondly, this committee and this committee staff has worked with the minority side to get the amendments in, but not only that, to offer the opportunity to put bills into this markup session and yet they have refused to do that.

They do not want this to be a bipartisan markup session as we have had in the past, and I think that is not good for the American people. We need to continue down the path even though, look, we have a different administration now. Elections have consequences.

We knew that when Biden was in office and Ms. Guzman was the administrator we were going to have to deal with things that we did not like and try to make changes as we could. I implore the other side to do the same now, to work with us to make America great again through small businesses. Let's put our shoulders to the plow and get this done for the American people.

And with that, I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Is there further debate on the amendment?

You are recognized.

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I actually was not planning on speaking but I just wanted to put into the record that we have, in fact, written a letter to the administrator. We have asked not only for her to attend and testify, we have asked specific questions of the administrator. Those letters have gone unanswered.

So, I appreciate my colleague's suggestion but we have, in fact, done that. We have been met with absolute silence from the administrator. And I would just respond also that I don't think that as a new Member I don't think it is a good practice to look into the past constantly and get into a cycle of, well, a prior administrator didn't come so that is a reason to not do it now.

I think if it was wrong then it should be wrong now. And so I would just offer as an olive branch that we could work together to say that should be the new standard going forward that we do get responses from administrators, Republican or Democrat, that they do testify. And I do look forward to finding ways to find more bipartisan bills in the future.

So, I just wanted to put that on the record. I come at this where I share my colleague's desire to make it bipartisan, and I do hope we can have that open communication with the administrator whoever it is. So, thank you very much, appreciate it.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

Is there further debate on the amendment?

Okay. I now recognize Mr. McGarvey from the great state of Kentucky.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And again, because our Ranking Member has to be at a markup right now I want to offer some thoughts on this.

First, a few things just globally what is going on. I enjoy this committee because I think we do work together to make sure that America's small businesses are working. That is the backbone of

our economy, not just in my congressional district but in every congressional district across this great country.

As to what Mr. Olszewski said about the letters to the administrator, we have written letters to this administrator asking for this, five letters, in fact, and I would like to move to enter those into the record now so that everyone knows what we have been asking and what we have not been receiving from the administrator.

Chairman WILLIAMS. So moved.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to point out that while maybe no administration is perfect since I have been on this committee and when Administrator Guzman and the Biden administration was in charge of the SBA, she came here and testified in front of this committee twice a year.

She also came to many Members' districts, including some of my Republican colleagues who are sitting in here today, including my district because she was getting involved in what was happening. So, I do want to point out that she did come and testify in front of this committee and oftentimes was asked to bring things with her.

Unto this amendment I applaud Rep. McIver for offering this amendment and support her efforts to increase congressional oversight of this ill-conceived proposal. The committee has made repeated requests to the SBA during this administration and all have gone unanswered.

We cannot conduct proper oversight if the administration refuses to provide basic information, and this bill is a prime example of how decisions should not be made without it.

There is no strategy from the SBA on their current workforce changes and the majority is now imposing additional new, baseless workforce requirements. Both appear to be making decisions independent of each other and the facts that are on the ground.

The SBA's workforce should be aligned with the agency's mission needs and the small businesses that they serve and support, not haphazard directives made without full and complete information. And I urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment.

I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

Is there any further debate on the amendment? All right.

I will move to strike the last word. It is the majority's right to work with the minority and the SBA determine when and on what the administrator should testify on before the committee.

So, I appreciate my colleagues' push for transparency with the administration. We can achieve this in other ways, and I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

Okay. The question now occurs on the amendment offered by McIver.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Ms. MCIVER. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman WILLIAMS. Yes, ma'am.

Ms. MCIVER. Thank you. I would like to request a recorded vote.

Chairman WILLIAMS. A recorded vote has been requested and a roll call vote is ordered so further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Ms. MORRISON. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

Chairman WILLIAMS. All right. There is an amendment at the desk, and we will briefly pause while staff distributes the amendment.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2027——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize Representative Morrison from the great state of Minnesota for 5 minutes on the amendment.

Ms. MORRISON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me start by saying that while I appreciate the desire to ensure that the Small Business Administration is providing top notch service to our small businesses in their districts and regional offices across the country, arbitrarily relocating 30 percent of the employees at SBA's headquarters is not only unnecessary but it is also extremely disruptive to the lives of those employees.

My amendment would exempt SBA employees who are veterans. As the wife of a veteran, I am deeply concerned about this administration's treatment of our nation's veterans. The Trump administration has fired more veterans than any other administration in history showing blatant disregard for those who have sacrificed so much for our country.

Forcing SBA employees who are veterans to abruptly relocate would be another cruel decision that breaks our pledge to take care of those who have served.

I want to end by urging my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this amendment and stand up for our nation's veterans.

Thank you, Mr. Chair. I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentlelady yields back. Is there further debate on the amendment?

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Chair?

Chairman WILLIAMS. Yes, sir. I now recognize Mr. Alford from Missouri.

Mr. ALFORD. Thank you. Look, while we really appreciate the sentiment of this amendment, it is misplaced. This bill is designed to better serve veterans by bringing the SBA closer to them. That is what the SERVE Act was all about, to encourage—to force the SBA to start doing a better job in building veterans into business owners. We have got to get the SBA out into the interior of America, into the heart of America, into main street to reach veterans.

You know, at the end of World War II more than half the people who left the military started a small business in America and now it is less than 10 percent. There is a reason for that, and they are not getting the capital and the counseling that they need.

And so while this amendment is appreciated, it is misplaced in the fact that the SBA is going to be more responsive and have face-to-face conversations with veterans who need help. So, veterans

being relocated to help other veterans, I don't see a better avenue for building relationships and building Main Street America.

And with that, Madam Chair, I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. [Presiding.] Is there any further debate on the amendment? Okay.

So, now I recognize Representative McGarvey from the great state of Kentucky for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman. I appreciate the work of my colleague Dr. Morrison in offering this amendment to prohibit the administrator from forcing veterans to uproot their lives or lose their jobs based on an arbitrary congressional directive.

The SBA has always been a small organization that punches above its weight. Fulfilling the mission to assist entrepreneurs in starting, building, and growing their businesses is a difficult task. It has grown more difficult since this administration began indiscriminate firings and issuing hostile directives toward its employees.

We do not need to make it any harder to get the right people into SBA jobs, yet this is what this bill will do. Dr. Morrison's amendment will provide some relief by exempting veterans from this unproductive mandate.

Veterans bring determination, needed skills, and a sense of camaraderie to their work and their retention should be a priority for all employers, including Small Business Administration. I urge all of my colleagues to support Dr. Morrison's amendment and protect the SBA employees who have served.

I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. I now recognize myself for 5 minutes. It makes no sense that the agency that is tasked with servicing Main Street America is centrally located in Washington, D.C. Veterans nationwide are actively seeking SBA assistance to start or grow their businesses and, unfortunately, because of the lack of resources and staff in the field offices many of their needs are going unmet.

This amendment will not only help veterans but it will also help small businesses across the country and thus I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

All right. The question now occurs on the amendment offered by the Representative Morrison from Minnesota.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Ms. MORRISON. Madam Chairwoman, I request a recorded vote, please.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. A recorded vote has been requested and a roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else offer an amendment on this?

Ms. MCIVER. Madam Chairwoman, I have an amendment at the desk.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. There is an amendment at the desk. We will be briefly paused while staff distributes the amendment.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize Mrs. McIver from New Jersey for 5—I am sorry? Where is she? All right. For 5 minutes on the amendment.

Ms. MCIVER. Thank you, Chairwoman. I would like to offer an amendment to this bill, one that reflects the deep concern many of us share about the cost, impact, and integrity of the Small Business Administration under its current leadership.

This amendment would prohibit this administration—this amendment would prohibit this bill from taking effect until the SBA administrator formally determines that its implementation would not increase cost to the agency or the American taxpayer.

The SBA is actively cutting nearly half of its workforce and engaging in other structural changes, all without a clear strategy or communication with all Members of this committee.

It is entirely reasonable to require a formal cost determination before allowing additional measures to move forward. Once again, oversight.

The SBA is already about to take on a massive new responsibility managing a more than $1 trillion federal student loan portfolio while laying off many of the hard-working SBA employees who helped countless small businesses through their loan programs in the last 4 years.

The very idea that this agency could take on more responsibilities without any additional cost is ridiculous. This amendment is simple. It ensures that we do not add to the chaos by green-lighting legislation that may carry unknown or hidden costs. It places the burden on the administrator to certify that this bill would not increase expenditures.

If the SBA cannot guarantee that, then that bill should not move forward. Congress must be the guardrail. We must be the ones to ask hard questions, demand clear answers, and protect the people we serve from political decisions that could harm our economy and our small businesses.

Our small business community, our federal budget, and our democratic process deserve nothing less. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

And with that, I yield back.

Is there further debate on the amendment?

Mr. ALFORD. Madam Chair?

Ms. VAN DUYNE. I now recognize Mr. Alford from Missouri for 5 minutes.

Mr. ALFORD. Thank you. While I appreciate this amendment by Mrs. McIver, I agree we do need guardrails. We don't need roadblocks. This is a roadblock to the evolving nature of the SBA and the vision of this administration, this administrator, and the majority of this committee to get back on main street. And so, I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

Thank you and I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Is there further debate on the amendment?

I now recognize Representative McGarvey from the great state of Kentucky for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman. The last amendment required SBA to take into account the needs of small businesses when determining relocations. This amendment requires the SBA to consider the costs.

Both are important considerations that appear to have been overlooked in the underlying bill. But those requirements are almost exclusively focused on pushing out the experienced staff who support SBA programs, not their efficacy, cost, or performance.

This amendment fixes that by ensuring that the majority's messaging bill does not waste taxpayer dollars that would otherwise be used to assist entrepreneurs in starting, operating, and growing their businesses. I urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment.

And I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. I now recognize myself for 5 minutes. The SBA is capable of administering student loans and will be prepared whether or not their employees are in D.C. or outside of D.C. I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

The question now occurs on this amendment offered from Representative McIver from New Jersey.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Ms. MCIVER. Madam Chairwoman, I would like to request a recorded vote.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. A recorded vote has been requested and a roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment? The question now occurs on the adoption of a substitute amendment offered to H.R. 2027 by Mr. Alford.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it and the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2027 is adopted.

The question is now on favorably reporting H.R. 2027 as amended to the House.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it and H.R. 2027 as amended is agreed to.

Mr. ALFORD. Madam Chair?

Ms. VAN DUYNE. For what purpose does the gentleman seek recognition?

Mr. ALFORD. I ask for a recorded vote.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. A recorded vote has been requested and a roll call vote is ordered. Pursuant to committee rule 13 and House rule 11, further proceedings on the bill are postponed.

H.R. 2966

So, the committee now moves into consideration of H.R. 2966, the American Entrepreneurs First Act, introduced by Representative Van Duyne from the great state of Texas.

The clerk will now report the bill.

The CLERK. H.R. 2966——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. And without objection, H.R. 2966 is considered as read and open for amendment. The amendment has been distributed in advance, and the clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2966——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. And without objection, the amendment is considered read and the substitute will be considered as base text for the purposes of further amendment.

I now recognize myself as the sponsor for 5 minutes. For far too long, loopholes in the SBA's application process have allowed federal dollars to fall into the wrong hands, often due to insufficient verification procedures.

We saw the consequences of this during the pandemic when billions of dollars of taxpayer funds meant for American small businesses were lost to fraud, theft, and abuse. This bill closes those gaps and codifies a much-needed citizenship verification requirement.

President Trump and Administrator Loeffler took a strong first step by requiring SBA applicants to verify their legal status through executive action, but we now know that executive orders can be reversed. So, now it is Congress' responsibility to act.

This bill makes those reforms permanent, protecting the SBA from abuse by foreign nationals, illegal aliens, and other ineligible applicants. Specifically, my bill requires every SBA applicant to verify their date of birth and citizenship or immigration status, and it ensures that businesses benefiting from SBA loans are 100 percent owned by eligible individuals and explicitly excludes ownership by visa holders, DACA recipients, and undocumented individuals.

These are targeted, reasonable safeguards that will reflect the will of the American people. I urge support for this legislation, and I yield back.

Does anyone else wish to speak on the bill and the amendment? Seeing none——

Mr. MCGARVEY. Madam Chair?

Ms. VAN DUYNE. All right. I now recognize Mr. McGarvey from the great state of Kentucky for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman, and I offer a statement on behalf of our Ranking Member Ms. Velázquez, who is in a markup herself.

I strongly oppose H.R. 2966. Not only would this bill deny hardworking small business owners with the legal right to be in this country with the financing they need to grow and scale their businesses, it will create practical challenges for SBA lending partners that jeopardizes the operations of both the 7(a) and 504 programs.

H.R. 2966 is a solution in search of a problem and it seems to be premised on the notion that certain segments of the American population are receiving SBA loans they otherwise shouldn't.

The bill also moves programs away from their original purposes and use of prudent underwriting standards to evaluate originations. The main purpose of the 7(a) program is to provide creditworthy small business borrowers that demonstrate an ability to repay and who cannot find credit elsewhere with access to loans

and loan guarantees. That legal status of a borrower has no bearing on their creditworthiness or their ability to repay and should not be used as a proxy for the prudent underwriting determination.

The bill also prevents U.S. majority-owned small businesses with minority ownership from participating in SBA lending program.

One prominent SBA program lender has already expressed to the committee that after the SBA's recent policy implementing President Trump's executive order, which this bill is modeled after, their institution was unable to modify a loan for a U.S. small business owned by a husband and wife solely because one of the individuals in the couple was a citizen of a European country.

In some ways it is ironic that the majority is marking up this bill now. Under the terms of this bill and the recent SBA policy changes, SBA lenders will need to create new compliance regimes to certify the status of individuals and comply with 100 percent U.S. beneficial ownership requirements in the bill.

Ironically, these questions and compliance procedures are similar to the ones Republicans across the House caucus have argued for years are either too complex, too costly, or too invasive for lenders to comply with the CFPB Section 1071 rule and the Corporate Transparency Act's beneficial ownership requirement.

Both the Section 1701 rule and the beneficial ownership rule have safe harbors, remedies for good faith mistakes, and in some situations opportunities for applicants to decline to provide their information altogether. H.R. 2966 is silent on all of these and seems to require maximum compliance from all applicants at all times with no exceptions.

The bill as written also creates practical challenges for program lenders and threatens future operations of both programs.

For example, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act prohibits creditors from discriminating against credit applicants on the basis of national origin, age, and other protected classes, and H.R. 2966 seems to make both age and national origin a threshold requirement in order for the borrower to qualify for a 7(a) or 504 loan.

As such, some program lenders have already expressed to the committee that verifying a borrower's date of birth and status in order to comply with H.R. 2966 could expose their institutions to legal violations under ECOA and force them to pull back from SBA lending.

Finally, concern has already been expressed that the SBA could sign a memorandum of understanding with DHS similar to the agreement that DHS recently signed with the IRS to share the information an individual borrower or business applicant has provided.

A partnership between the SBA and DHS to share small business borrowers' citizenship information is without precedent and could weaponize the SBA and SBA program lenders as immigration enforcement officers threatening the safety of thousands of small business owners.

For these are many additional reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote against the bill, and I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. I would like to now recognize Representative LaLota from the proud state of New York for 5 minutes.

Mr. LALOTA. The proud and great state of New York, thank you, Madam Chair. My staff told me today would be a partisan deliberation of the Small Business Committee. I thought what could be so partisan about how we help main street, but I guess here is where we are at.

The question is whether or not American taxpayers should subsidize loans to non-citizens, and it is clear the two parties have different opinions on that. I think that American taxpayers should only subsidize loans towards American citizens.

And I respect my colleagues from this side of the aisle, I disagree with their premise that we should continue to subsidize loans towards non-citizens. And I think that H.R. 2966 does exactly what we need to prevent the blatant disregard for our laws that we saw time and time again under the Biden-Harris administration.

For 4 of those years, the SBA exacerbated the migrant crisis by approving loans for illegal immigrants despite their ineligibility. That, thankfully, has come to an end under the leadership of President Trump and Administrator Loeffler.

Last month the SBA found that the Biden-Harris SBA approved a nearly $1 million loan to a business that was 49 percent owned by an illegal immigrant. Thankfully, it was stopped before any funds could be disbursed.

In line with President Trump's executive order, quote, "ending taxpayer subsidization of open borders," end quote, the American Entrepreneurs First Act codifies Administrator Loeffler's new SBA policy. This policy rightfully requires citizenship verification, just as we should have with our elections, of SBA assistance applications. These safeguards will ensure that only the American taxpayer-backed SBA loans go to American entrepreneurs.

Madam Chairman, it doesn't get any more no-brainer than this. I urge my colleagues to vote yes, and I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. All right. Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment? So, the question now occurs on the amendment offered—no, sorry. The question now occurs on the adoption of the substitute amendment offered to H.R. 2966 by Representative Van Duyne.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it. The amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2966 is adopted.

The question is now favorably reporting H.R. 2966, as amended, to the House.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it and H.R. 2966——

Mr. LALOTA. Madam Chairwoman?

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Yes. For what purpose does the gentleman seek recognition?

Mr. LALOTA. I request a recorded vote.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. A recorded vote has been requested and a roll call vote is ordered. Pursuant to committee rule 13 and the House rule 11, further proceedings on this bill are postponed.

H.R. 2931

The committee now moves into consideration of H.R. 2931, the Save SBA From Sanctuary Cities Act introduced by Representative Finstad from the great state of Minnesota.

The clerk will report the bill.

The CLERK. H.R. 2931——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Without objection, H.R. 2931 is considered as read and open for amendment. The bill's sponsor, Mr. Finstad, has an amendment in the nature of a substitute at the desk. The amendment has been distributed in advance.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment in the nature of a substitute——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. And without objection, the amendment is considered as read and the substitute will be considered as base text for the purposes of further amendment.

I now recognize the sponsor of the bill and the amendment, Mr. Finstad, for a statement.

Mr. FINSTAD. Thank you, Madam Chair. For years sanctuary jurisdictions have circumvented federal law raising serious public safety concerns. Moreover across the country, politicians have passed sanctuary jurisdiction policies that have encouraged waves of illegal immigrants to come into our nation.

Last November the American people overwhelmingly elected President Trump to secure our nation's border and to make our communities safe. And since taking office, President Trump has done exactly that.

In my home state of Minnesota the Small Business Administration office is currently located in the city of Minneapolis and is responsible for serving all of Minnesota's 87 counties. For years Minneapolis has passed several sanctuary city policies and at one point even attempted to defund their own police department.

My legislation, the Save SBA From Sanctuary Cities Act, would require the Small Business Administration to remove and relocate their offices that are currently located in sanctuary jurisdictions to better ensure resources benefit American small businesses and, more specifically, for communities like mine, rural communities.

Small businesses and those seeking resources from our SBA offices across this country deserve to have access to these resources without the threat of violence and lawlessness that is being accepted as normal in our sanctuary cities across our country. I encourage my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

And with that, Madam Chair, I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Does anyone else wish to speak on the bill and the amendments? Seeing none, I would like to recognize the Ranking Member to speak on the bill and the amendment.

Mr. McGarvey?

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman. I again offer a statement on behalf of Ranking Member Velázquez, who cannot be here because she is in a markup, opposing H.R. 2931, the legislation to relocate SBA's regional offices.

On March 20th, Ms. Velázquez, along with 23 of her colleagues, sent a letter to Administrator Loeffler over her abrupt decision to relocate six of the SBA's regional offices and have yet to receive a response. We would like to enter that letter into the record.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. So moved.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Reorganizations of this magnitude shouldn't take place in the dark. The Government Accountability Office, an independent, nonpartisan agency that examines how tax dollars are spent, reported that a leading practice of effective agency reorganizations includes the involvement of Congress, federal employees, and other key stakeholders. None of this is occurring.

Even more troubling, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are shirking their oversight responsibilities. We have not held any hearings on this bill or the administrator's mass terminations for that matter. It seems our majority doesn't care how these staffing cuts will impact our main street businesses, but I do.

Mr. Chairman, we need answers. We need to conduct oversight and refrain from moving partisan messaging bills. Again, I would ask that we have the administrator testify and explain these actions.

The bottom line is that this decision to relocate the regional offices in areas with high concentrations of Democratic residents is a blatant weaponization of the SBA for political gain. Targeting these cities is clearly punitive, unjust, and counterproductive and will harm millions of small businesses across the country who have been suffering through the chaos and heavy handedness of this administration.

This bill is another messaging bill that will cost taxpayers money, accomplish nothing, and is aimed at distracting us from the real issue at hand, the reckless chaos and rising costs of the president's first 100 days in office.

We need to set aside the political theater and focus on the issues that matter most, lowering costs for small businesses, standing up to big corporations, and investing in America.

I am opposed to this measure, and I urge my colleagues to vote against it. I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Thank you.

I now recognize myself for a statement on the bill and the amendment. I rise in support of H.R. 2931, the Save SBA From Sanctuary Cities Act introduced by my good friend Brad Finstad from the great state of Minnesota.

President Biden inherited what was at the time the most secure border in American history. However, as we know, he halted construction on the border wall. He paused deportations. He terminated the remain in Mexico program and fueled possibly the worst border crisis in American history.

And meanwhile, sanctuary cities sought to shield criminals from federal immigration laws putting citizens, small businesses, and government offices at risk of violence.

President Trump took swift action to restore the rule of law and make our communities safer, including by stopping the subsidization of areas that refuse to comply with immigration laws. H.R. 2931 codifies these efforts to ensure that the SBA officials are not put in danger due to these illegal sanctuary city policies.

Quite simply, these illegal sanctuary cities must follow the law and put an end to this preventable violence. We must protect the owners and customers on main street and SBA personnel. I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill to make main street safe again.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Mr. CISNEROS. Madam Chairwoman, I have an amendment at the desk.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. For what purpose does the gentleman—I am sorry. There is an amendment at the desk. We will briefly pause while staff distributes the amendment.

It has been distributed so the clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2931——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize the gentleman from California, Mr. Cisneros, for 5 minutes on the amendment.

Mr. CISNEROS. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman, but I don't get a great, the great state of California like everybody else? Thank you. Look, my amendment seeks to ensure that taxpayers are not only on the hook for a blatant attempt to weaponize SBA, as H.R. 2931 seeks to target major cities led by individuals who simply have differing policy views from this administration.

People's livelihoods are at stake and this administration is playing games. Whatever vendetta prompted this legislation, it should not be on the taxpayers' dime. This administration claims to want efficiency while taking away SBA resources from major cities with a high concentration of millions of small businesses is far from efficient.

This bill is being framed as wanting to make the moves to keep SBA offices and small businesses safe. Let's be honest. If you truly cared about small businesses you would not be allowing this administration to fire the workers in the field offices that support small businesses directly.

You would not be trying to force the remaining staff to decide whether to uproot their livelihood or to quit. You would not be okay with those who have become experts in supporting small businesses to be forced out of the SBA. If you care we would hear from the SBA on these proposed moves and the administrator would come and testify.

Supporting small businesses should not be a partisan issue. We have heard from hearings in this very committee on how targeting SBA resources in major cities will be critically detrimental. The SBA administrator has advocated for this bill in her press conferences but yet she has yet to come to this committee to discuss her plans or her vision for the SBA.

This bill is nothing more than an attack on Democratic-led cities but it will hurt small businesses regardless of the party affiliation of the business owner.

So, I hope my colleagues across the aisle will join me in supporting my amendment to ensure that if there is any cost that is too outrageously political—this is a political game. It cannot be moved forward to hurt taxpayers or small businesses.

And with that, I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Is there further debate on the amendment?

I now recognize Mr. Finstad for 5 minutes.

Mr. FINSTAD. Thank you, Madam Chair. Let me state very clearly, no state or city is exempt from following federal law and

by refusing to cooperate with federal immigration enforcement authorities sanctuary cities allow unlawful and criminal aliens to be released onto the streets.

Federal taxpayers' dollars will be saved by preventing them from subsidizing sanctuary city policies which undermine federal law and increase public safety risk to their communities and to the very folks that the SBA is serving.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment, and I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Does anyone else have further debate on the amendment?

Ms. MCIVER. Madam Chair, I would like to yield my time to my colleague.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Cisneros is now recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CISNEROS. Thank you, Madam Chair. Look, the responsibility of the Small Business Administration is supporting and helping small business. It is not the Department of Homeland Security. It is not the Immigration and Customs Service. It is not the responsibility to enforce immigration laws of the SBA.

The SBA should be focused on what its task is and that is supporting small businesses. And to remove resources out of cities simply because they are led by Democratic leadership is inefficient and it is going to hurt businesses and it is going to hurt business owners regardless of their party affiliation. And we cannot allow that to happen.

If this committee truly supports, and we are working in a bipartisan matter, we will continue to support small businesses no matter where they are, main street and small town America, rural America, and in our urban cities. That is our responsibility and that is what we should be focused on.

Let Homeland Security worry about immigration. Let us worry about small business, and with that, I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Representative LaLota from the okay state of New York is now recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LALOTA. Boo. Everybody boo the Chairwoman, please. A sanctuary city or a sanctuary state is one who overtly intentionally acts contrary to federal immigration law, specifically telling their officers, agents, and agencies do not cooperate with the federal government on matters of immigration law. Do not hand over any records. Do not share the information. Do not facilitate the enforcement of our federal immigration law. This is how we got a migrant crisis, folks.

Not only the Biden open border that allowed 10 million plus folks into the country but the incentive to get to a sanctuary city like New York City is the reason we had a huge migrant crisis with this administration, and the people of the country want us to end.

Part of that is removing the incentive and creating an opportunity for governments to reverse their policies. I come from New York, which to some is just an okay state, and maybe it is just okay because we don't in New York enforce federal immigration laws in the five boroughs. And that is a reason why so many folks not only cross the border but came to New York for all the free stuff, the free hotels, the free healthcare, and the lack of immigration enforcement in places like New York.

This bill gives an opportunity for New York City policymakers to tell their constituents, hey, listen, I need to make a choice back to help the Feds enforce immigration laws because it is the right thing to do and because now Congress and the administration are exerting some leverage over us. This is what we need to do to force the hands of policymakers who continue to choose to support illegal immigration over the safety and security of folks.

You want to help small business? Help the customers not be afraid of being robbed at gunpoint by an illegal immigrant like they are doing across our great country. This bill is right. It deserves our support. It deserves bipartisan support so that we can have safety and security in our great country.

I yield.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Is there further debate on the amendment?

So, I now recognize Representative McGarvey from the great state of Kentucky for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman and I offer remarks on behalf of our Ranking Member Ms. Velázquez, who can't be here because of a markup. Thank you to the Chairwoman.

Thank you to my colleague Mr. Cisneros for offering this amendment to ensure that the SBA considers the cost to the taxpayer when making decisions based on local immigration policies rather than on the needs of 34 million small businesses.

Like many of the bills we are considering today, this is a messaging bill that will have real consequences for small businesses and American taxpayers. While we should not have to direct the SBA to consider—while we should not have to direct SBA to consider the cost associated with their partisan agenda, this amendment is necessary to ensure that they do.

The announcement of the relocation of these offices was reckless and done without a plan, input from small businesses, or even a cost analysis.

Mr. Cisneros' amendment is a step to protect taxpayer dollars and small businesses' access to the SBA services. I urge all of my colleagues to support it and oppose the final bill.

Ms. Chairwoman, I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. So, I now recognize myself for 5 minutes. We must ensure that SBA personnel and their small business clients are not forced to work where sanctuary city policies have increased the threat of violence. We can't pause. We can't delay on this.

We have to make sure that they are getting the safety from cities that are willing to actually enforce laws. And I urge Members to vote no on this amendment.

The question now occurs on the amendment offered by the gentleman from the "at least we have good weather" state of California, Mr. Cisneros.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Mr. CISNEROS. Madam Chair, I request a recorded vote.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. A recorded vote has been requested and a roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment? Are we done?

There is an amendment at the desk, and we will pause briefly while staff distributes the amendment.

So, the clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize the gentleman from Kentucky for 5 minutes on the amendment.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman. I offer Ms. Velázquez's amendment because she cannot be in the room right now. She is at a markup.

The SBA's announcement that they will relocate certain offices based on local immigration policies rather than the interests of small businesses should not have come as a surprise but it did.

There was limited, if any, small business or stakeholder involvement in the decision and there appears to be no plan in place or analysis conducted around closing or moving offices. And the committee has not been provided information or held a hearing on this announcement.

Again and again our requests for information have gone ignored and unanswered. This is simply unacceptable.

Accordingly, we must conduct oversight through the legislative process. Ms. Velázquez's amendment would require that this information be provided to Congress prior to SBA implementing any rash relocation decisions with negative consequences for certain small businesses. I urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Is there further debate on the amendment?

I now recognize Mr. Finstad for 5 minutes.

Mr. FINSTAD. Thank you, Madam Chair. This amendment will unnecessarily delay the implementation of this bill. The threats posed by criminal illegal aliens in sanctuary cities is very real. As a reminder of this fact consider what has happened earlier this month in New York City.

U.S. Immigration and Custom Enforcement arrested over 200 criminal illegal aliens. The majority of these illegal aliens had criminal histories for crimes like manslaughter, rape, assault, drug trafficking, sex assault against minors.

Unnecessary delays in office relocation exposes SBA employees and customers to the very real danger created by sanctuary city policies, and I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Is there further debate on the amendment?

So, I now recognize myself. The reality is that across America radical sanctuary city policies have caused havoc in these communities. We have a duty to protect SBA employees' access to safer workplaces without delay. I urge my colleagues to vote on this amendment.

The question now occurs on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman and Ranking Member Velázquez.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Mr. MCGARVEY. I request a roll call vote.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. A recorded vote has been requested. A roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment? The question now occurs on the adoption of the substitute amendment offered to H.R. 2931 by Mr. Finstad.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion the Chair, the ayes have it. The amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2931 is adopted.

The question is now on favorably reporting H.R. 2931, as amended, to the House.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it and it——

Mr. FINSTAD. Madam Chair?

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Yes.

Mr. FINSTAD. Could I ask for recorded vote, please?

Ms. VAN DUYNE. A recorded vote has been requested. A roll call vote is ordered. Pursuant to committee rule 13 and House rule 11, further proceedings on the bill are postponed.

H.R. 2987

The committee now moves to consideration of H.R. 2987, the CEASE Act, introduced by Representative Bresnahan from the great state of Pennsylvania.

The clerk will report the bill.

The CLERK. H.R. 2987, a bill to amend the Small Business——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Without objection, H.R. 2987 is considered as read and open for amendment.

The bill sponsor, Mr. Bresnahan, has an amendment in the nature of a substitute at the desk. The amendment has been distributed in advance.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment in the nature of substitute——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read and the substitute will be considered as base text for the purposes of further amendment.

I now recognize the sponsor of the bill and the amendment, Mr. Bresnahan, for 5 minutes.

Mr. BRESNAHAN. Thank you, Madam Chair. My bill, Capping Excessive Awarding of SBLC Entrants Act, or the CEASE Act, restores a vital piece integrity to the flagship SBA 7(a) loan program. The SBA is authorized to issue government-backed 7(a) loans through certified depository institutions like banks and credit unions, as well as certified non-bank lenders like FinTech companies.

Unlike certified depository institutions, whose primary regulator is the Federal Reserve, the non-bank SBLCs are primarily regulated by the SBA, meaning they are not subject to the same regulations and requirements.

Together, the limited number of SBLCs and prudent lending standards that used to be in place at the SBA were necessary guardrails to ensure that the 7(a) program remained zero subsidy, costing taxpayers zero dollars.

The SBA had its own concerns that it did not have the oversight capabilities to monitor and regulate an unlimited number of SBLCs, yet the Biden-Harris administration sought to expand the number of SBLC licenses while also lowering lending standards and loosening underwriting criteria in the 7(a) program.

Expanding SBLC licenses when the SBA itself acknowledged that it is unequipped to regulate additional for-profit, non-bank lenders is problematic. That is why my legislation is so important to ensure that the SBA is not addressing excessive SBLCs that it cannot properly regulate. We cannot continue giving the federal government ways to abuse taxpayer dollars.

I thank the Administrator Loeffler for taking swift action and returning prudent lending standards to the 7(a) program. She is working to ensure small businesses will continue to have access to this valuable resource.

Combined with the CEASE Act, those efforts will return the SBA to its proper oversight capabilities and ensure that federally regulated lenders, such as community banks, remain a fundamental pillar of 7(a) lending.

This bill was thoughtfully drafted and encompasses the original 14 SBLCs and two additional SBLCs licensed in 2024 after the Biden era rule changed. No existing SBLC licenses would be revoked as part of this bill.

I ask my colleagues to vote yes on this practical and sensible bill. Thank you and I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. I now recognize the Ranking Member to speak on the bill and the amendment.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman. I want to offer a statement on behalf of Ms. Velázquez. H.R. 2987 places a statutory moratorium on the number of SBLC licenses that can be issued by the SBA at the currently issued number of 16.

SBLCs are non-depository lending institutions that are authorized by the SBA to make 7(a) loans nationwide up to the programmatic cap of $5 million per small business.

There has been bipartisan concern about the SBA's ability to issue additional SBLC licenses on this committee for more than 2 years. Ms. Velázquez first expressed concern about the SBA's decision to amend its regulations to lift its previous moratorium on the licensing of new SBLCs after the SBA made the announcement as part of its proposed SBLC rule in April of 2023.

Prior to the finalization of the SBLC rule, the SBA had placed a moratorium on licensing new SBLCs since 1982, as it believed it did not have the necessary resources to properly supervise any new entrants into the program.

Although there is no cap on the number of licenses that can be issued under the SBLC rule, in a proposed rule the SBA stated that based on the oversight capacity it had at that time it believed it had the ability to license and supervise three new SBLCs.

Given the controversy and upheaval associated with the SBA's decision to award an SBLC license to the FinTech company Fund-

ing Circle, I believe it is worth exploring the necessity to statutorily codify the number of SBLC licenses at the currently issued number of 16.

However, the text of H.R. 2987 is silent as to the moratorium's applicability to currently existing community advantage SBLC licenses. The program began as a pilot program in 2011 and has been hugely successful in facilitating smaller dollar loans to small businesses that are new or located in an underserved community.

As part of the SBLC rule in 2023, the SBA transitioned the CA program from its original form as a pilot to a specifically designated community advantage SBLC license program. CA lenders who continue to be interested in making loans under the program are required to register with the SBA as CA SBLCs. Thus far, 143 CA lenders have registered with the SBA as CA SBLCs.

In fiscal year 2024, the community advantage program issued 1,118 loans valued at more than $196 million with an average loan size of approximately $175,700. I believe the CA program needs to continue to grow and lenders with an interest in participating in the program need to be awarded a CA SBLC license if they meet all the programmatic requirements for licensure.

I am concerned that H.R. 2987's textual silence as to the SBLC moratorium's applicability to the CA SBLC program could be interpreted by SBA during this administration or a future administration as directed to the SBA to limit the number of CA SBLC licenses or even shut down the program altogether, a concern CA industry participants share and have expressed as well.

The standard practice would be for outstanding questions associated with legislative text to be answered as part of a committee hearing with the SBA leadership or industry participants, yet no such hearing on this legislation has been held.

Moreover, H.R. 2987 wasn't even introduced until last Thursday, providing our side of the aisle without sufficient time to speak with the SBA, all necessary industry partners, and engage in the due diligence review required to support the legislation.

So while I remain concerned about the SBA's ability to award an unlimited number of new SBLC licenses, central questions regarding the legislation's text remain and therefore I cannot support the legislation in its current form. I urge my colleagues to vote no on the bill, and I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Thank you. I now recognize myself to speak in support of this legislation. H.R. 2987, the CEASE Act, is the solution to an irresponsible world change that was made by the Biden-Harris SBA last year, under last Congress, when it announced the decision to lift a 40-year moratorium on licensing new SBLCs to participate in flagship 7(a) programs.

The moratorium was in place due to the SBA's own recognition of its limitations to prudently regulate and oversee non-depository lenders within a nationwide 7(a) lending platform.

Both Members of the House and the Senate expressed concerns about the SBA's capacity to serve as the primary regulator for additional SBLCs, yet the Biden-Harris SBA went full steam ahead and even awarded an SBLC license to an entity called Funding Circle, which is an entity that was not prepared nor qualified to take on the license.

That entity also held a central role in lobbying the Biden-Harris administration to lift the SBLC moratorium. And while the Funding Circle license was surrendered before it could make a 7(a) loan, we cannot allow potentially negligent actors to participate in government-backed lending and ultimately put taxpayer dollars at risk.

These decisions pointed to a fundamental failure in the Biden-Harris SBA's vetting of applicants for the SBLC licenses and further reinforced the bipartisan concerns raised about the SBA's limited oversight capacity.

This common sense legislation is a step toward restoring the integrity of the 7(a) program and ensures responsible oversight for the non-federally regulated lenders that participate.

I thank Representative Bresnahan for introducing this legislation, and I urge all Members to vote yes. I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Does anyone wish to offer an amendment? So, the question now occurs on the adoption of the substitute amendment offered to H.R. 2987 by Mr. Bresnahan.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion the Chair, the ayes have it. The amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2987 is adopted.

The question is now on favorably reporting H.R. 2987, as amended, to the House.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it and H.R. 2987, as amended——

Mr. BRESNAHAN. Madam Chair, I request a recorded vote.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. A recorded vote has been requested and a roll call vote is ordered. Pursuant to committee rule 13 and House rule 11, further proceedings on the bill are postponed.

H.R. 2965

The committee now moves to consideration of H.R. 2965, the Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act of 2025, introduced by Representative Van Duyne from the great state of Texas.

The clerk will report the bill.

The CLERK. H.R. 2965——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Without objection, H.R. 2965 is considered as read and open for the amendments. And the bill's sponsor has an amendment in the nature of a substitute at the desk and the amendment has been distributed in advance.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment in the nature of——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read and the substitute will be considered as base text for the purposes of further amendment.

I now recognize myself as the sponsor of this bill and the amendment for a 5-minute statement. In my first year as a Member on this committee, we heard from a witness, and it was a very powerful testimony. He held up a three-ring binder. It was stuffed full of regulations that they were forced to comply with. I would be

afraid to see what the binder looks like today after 4 years of the Biden regime.

In the years following that hearing, I have continued to hear from countless small business owners in north Texas about the overwhelming regulatory environment that they face. From day one the Trump administration has worked to undo this regulatory onslaught that agencies have imposed on main street, launching bold efforts like this 10 to 1 deregulation initiative.

My bill works in lockstep with President Trump's deregulatory agenda and it holds our federal agencies accountable by requiring them to display the true cost of the regulations imposed on small businesses.

I hope that my colleagues from both sides of the aisle could agree with me when I say that the House Committee on Small Business is committed to prioritizing the needs of our nation's job creators and their employees. That starts with lessening the red tape that small businesses have to file in order to survive.

Specifically, my bill requires the SBA to ensure that for each fiscal year the cost of its own rulemaking is not greater than zero dollars. Furthermore, it requires the SBA to publish a report on regulations issued by other federal agencies that impact small businesses.

I urge support for this legislation, and I yield back.

Does anyone else wish to speak on the bill and the amendments?

I would like to recognize the Ranking Member to speak on the bill and the amendment for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman. I offer a statement from our Ranking Member Ms. Velázquez. I am opposed to H.R. 2965, the Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act of 2025. Throughout my tenure on the committee I have worked with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to put forth thoughtful bipartisan bills that will make lives easier for small business owners.

Unfortunately, this bill is a messaging bill designed to distract the American public from the harm the Trump administration is inflicting on small businesses with the on again, off again tariff policy and the intentional tanking of the economy.

This bill mandating a zero or negative regulatory budget for SBA may sound good on the surface, but it would have the practical effect of limiting the SBA from issuing any rules even if the benefits outweigh the costs. SBA needs to issue regulations to update programs, issue disaster regulations, and even reduce recordkeeping requirements. That is good government practice that the majority doesn't seem to understand.

The majority also fails to realize that agencies may be able to estimate the cost of a regulation but they do not have hard data on the costs that are imposed. This bill would require the SBA to make assumptions that could turn out to be incorrect. There is nothing in the bill that clarifies how the agency is to implement a regulatory budget and is therefore impractical.

Finally, the bill does not include an exception for national emergencies, meaning that if this bill had been enacted before the pandemic small businesses across the country might not have received PPP assistance in a timely manner, if they received it at all. For

these reasons, I will not be able to lend my support to the Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act.

Thank you and I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Madam Chair?

Ms. VAN DUYNE. For what purpose does the gentleman seek recognition?

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. I have an amendment at the desk.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. There is amendment at the desk, and we will briefly pause while staff distributes the amendments. The amendment has been distributed.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize Mr. Olszewski for 5 minutes on the amendment.

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I am pleased to offer an amendment to H.R. 2965 by, as I have previously said in past committee hearings, I am happy to work together on fixing our regulatory system, but I also understand the challenges that small businesses face every day.

They need to make payroll, hire talented people, brand their product, work towards inclusion of their workers, provide benefits for their employees, and market their services. As a former county executive and local leader, I know that poorly crafted regulations, whether at the federal, state, or local level can be burdensome for small businesses.

That is why Congress enacted the Regulatory Flexibility Act, or RFA, which requires federal agencies to work with the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy to gather input from small business during the rulemaking process and to advocate for them with federal agencies, essentially leveling the playing field for small businesses.

This bill mandates a zero or negative regulatory budget for SBA, having the practical effect of limiting the SBA from issuing any rules despite the benefits outweighing the costs.

In light of that, even a coalition of sensible safeguards comprised of more than 200 labor, scientific research, good government, faith, community, health, environmental, and public interest groups is opposed, stating the bill is unworkable and inherently flawed.

Throughout my short time in this committee I have heard bipartisan support surrounding both workforce development programs and rural small business programs, so I urge my colleagues to support an amendment that carves out an exemption for these programs because haphazardly nullifying and rolling back regulations won't solve the problem.

The bill holds the potential to harm small businesses, consumers, and the environment. If we are going to pass the bill out of this committee, I hope we can at least include this amendment.

Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. The Chairwoman now recognizes Ranking Member for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman. I support Dr. Olszewski's amendment, and I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. All right. I now recognize myself for 5 minutes. The solution cannot be more government spending and expanded regulation. The focus should be on providing incentives that allow the private sector to invest in workforce training and development rather than relying on the government to create new rules and programs.

Our goal should be to empower rural entrepreneurs with tax relief, regulatory elimination, and access to capital, which will allow them to grow their businesses and hire more workers without an increase in government spending or bureaucratic overhead.

My bill does that. It ensures a full and accurate accounting for regulatory costs imposed on small businesses, including those in rural communities. I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

Is there further debate on the amendment? So, the question now occurs on the amendment offered by the gentleman Mr. Olszewski from Maryland.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Yes. Madam Chair?

Ms. VAN DUYNE. A recorded vote has been requested and a roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Ms. MORRISON. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. For what purposes does the—oh, there is an amendment at the desk. We will briefly pause while staff distributes the amendment.

So, the clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute——

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize Representative from Minnesota, Representative Morrison for 5 minutes on the amendment.

Ms. MORRISON. Thank you, Madam Chair. My amendment is a simple one. It would carve out rules that benefit veterans.

I agree that to protect our small businesses we must ensure that new regulations don't present unnecessary burdens to them, however, this rigid legislation creates an unreasonable cap that could prevent the enactment of regulations designed to benefit specific groups of people that we have a duty to look out for, such as veterans.

I again urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand up for those who have served our country and support this amendment.

Thank you Madam Chair. I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. The Chair now recognizes the Ranking Member for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.

And I applaud Dr. Morrison for offering an amendment to carve out rules benefiting veterans from the regulatory budget. Time and again we have heard from veterans about the importance of the SBA's programs to their small businesses and regulatory enhancements are part of the process of addressing the very needs of veterans.

A regulatory budget will have the practical effect of grinding the SBA rulemaking to halt and harm small businesses. I support this exception for our nation's veterans and thank Dr. Morrison for offering the amendment. Simply, we owe a lot to our nation's veterans and cannot take any chances with the unintended consequences a regulatory budget would have at the SBA.

I yield back.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Thank you very much.

And I now recognize myself for 5 minutes, and I absolutely agree we owe a number of platitudes and thanks and benefits to our veterans. And one of the reasons why when I go home we have a number of different roundtables specifically with veterans. Not one veteran have I talked to, especially those who are interested in starting small businesses or who own small businesses, ask for more government regulations.

In fact, the best way to help veteran small businesses thrive is now by expanding regulatory costs but by reducing them. So instead of adding carve-outs for regulatory costs, we should focus on removing the red tape, on cutting unnecessary regulations, and ensuring that veteran business owners can operate with greater flexibility at their greatest potential.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

Is there further debate on the amendment? So, the question now occurs on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Minnesota.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Ms. MORRISON. Madam Chair, I would like to request a recorded vote.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. A recorded vote has been requested. A roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment? Okay, nobody?

So, the question now occurs on the adoption of the substitute amendment offered to H.R. 2965 by Representative Van Duyne.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it. The amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2965 is adopted.

The question is now on favorably reporting H.R. 2965 as amended to the House.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it.

Mr. FINSTAD. Madam Chair, could I request a recorded vote?

Ms. VAN DUYNE. A recorded vote has been requested. A roll call vote is ordered. Pursuant to committee rule 13 and the House rule 11, further proceedings on the bill are postponed.

Chairman WILLIAMS. [Presiding.] Okay. I want to thank Congresswoman Van Duyne for filling in for me. Thank you very much.

H.R. 1163

The committee now moves into consideration of H.R. 1163, the Prove It Act of 2025 introduced by Representative Finstad from the great state of Minnesota.

The clerk will report the bill.

The CLERK. H.R. 1163, a bill to amend title 5——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, H.R. 1163 is considered as read and open for the amendment. The bill sponsor, Mr. Finstad, has an amendment in the nature of a substitute at the desk. The amendment has been distributed in advance.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R.——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read and the substitute will be considered as base text for the purpose of further amendment.

I now recognize the sponsor of the bill and the amendment, Mr. Finstad, for his statement on the bill and the amendment.

Mr. FINSTAD. Thank you, Chairman Williams. Over the last 4 years, the Biden administration added $1.8 trillion in new regulatory compliance costs and 356 million hours of paperwork to small businesses, ushering in the most burdensome regulatory environment in history.

In 1980, Congress passed the Regulatory Flexibility Act to protect small businesses from these burdens. Unfortunately, the Biden administration disregarded the law in favor of pushing a far left agenda that burdened our small business community.

Government red tape has made it harder and more costly for Americans to start a business and for many hindering their opportunity to achieve the American dream. For too long, D.C. bureaucrats have abused their regulatory power, trampling over the small businesses that are the backbone of our economy.

My legislation, the Prove It Act, gives teeth to an already existing law, the Regulatory Flexibility Act. Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act, agencies are required to complete an initial and final analysis of their regulations and certify that they will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities.

In many cases, agencies have failed to meet the standards of the Regulatory Flexibility Act and have left small business owners across our country with the short end of the stick.

The Prove It Act would require federal agencies to analyze both the direct and indirect costs their regulations would have on small entities, create a way for small businesses to petition their chief advocate in government to review federal agencies' work, and prove that they are fully compliant with existing laws. If an agency fails to comply with the review process, small businesses then would be exempt from the regulation in question.

The Prove It Act would also ensure that small businesses can easily access pre-existing guidance documents via regulations.gov

and give teeth to the retrospective review by requiring any regulation that agencies fail to perform from the already required tenure respective review to be nullified.

This legislation passed the House of Representatives and the 118th Congress with bipartisan support and has received endorsement from numerous organizations, including the National Federation of Independent Businesses, the Associated Builders and Contractors, the U.S. Chamber, and Job Creators Network, and many other organizations that support main street businesses across this country.

This common sense bill gives our hard-working American small business owners a larger voice in the regulatory process. I would like to thank all the Members of this committee and across Congress who in a bipartisan way have partnered with me on this important piece of legislation. And I urge the Members of this committee to vote in favor and support of the Prove It Act.

And with that, Mr. Chair, I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

And does anyone else wish to speak on the bill and the amendment? Okay. Seeing none, I would like to recognize the Ranking Member to speak on the bill and the amendment.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I offer comments from our Ranking Member Ms. Velázquez. I am opposed to H.R. 1163, the Prove It Act. We have held numerous hearings in this committee on regulations, and I think we can all agree and part of the role of our committee is to recognize the impact they have on small employers and work to find ways to balance the shared goal of minimizing the burdens and achieving the intended effects of regulations.

We have heard from regulatory experts that agencies have been better about considering the impact of their rules on small entities since the passage of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. The Office of Advocacy has been working diligently to educate and train rule-writing staff about their responsibilities, and they are collaborating with agencies to make SBREFA panels more effective and impactful.

We have seen the fruits of their labor. The analysis agencies are conducting has improved significantly. In fact, GAO issued a report on which it found agencies were generally complying with the RFA. They were just in need of more training.

But this bill disregards the meaningful progress that has already been made. Rather than building on that progress to better serve the interests of small employers, it threatens to bring our rule-making process to a grinding halt.

The bottom line is this bill hands large companies a powerful new tool to delay and weaken rules, creating uncertainty, stalling progress, and ultimately harming the very small businesses it claims to protect.

Let me take a minute to go through the bill. First, it allows any group that claims to represent small businesses to petition advocacy to block, delay, or weaken rules that it doesn't like. I find it particularly troubling large organizations like the Chamber of Commerce could file a petition without never identifying the small business they represent.

Even more concerning these organizations could submit multiple petitions on behalf of any unnamed small business within their network. This means a small employer that came into compliance with a lack of transparency in the process enables these organizations to back on behalf of powerful companies while claiming to represent small businesses, all without accountability.

But most concerning is the new ability of the chief counsel to have broad and unchecked authority to determine that a rule is no longer effective if an agency fails to conduct a retrospective review. This means a small employer that came into compliance with an existing rule could see it eliminated and then possibly reinstated sometime in the future. This is counterproductive to what my colleagues state they are trying to achieve.

Put simply, this bill is unworkable. If enacted, advocacy would need to double its staff, and no surprise, this bill provides zero additional resources. CBO estimates that agencies and advocacy will need an additional $40 million over the next 5 years to implement this act, and that doesn't include the $17 million it will add to the federal deficit.

Small employers need certainty and this bill fails to provide it. I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman yields back.

And I now recognize myself for a statement on the bill and the amendment. I rise in support of H.R. 1163, the Prove It Act of 2025, introduced by my friend Representative Finstad from the great state of Minnesota.

Last Congress' committee investigated whether the federal government protects small businesses when making regulations. Unsurprisingly, our regulatory reform act report proved that the agencies often skirt around laws put in place to protect small businesses from burdensome regulatory costs.

This coupled with the direct attack on small business through the regulatory onslaught by the Biden-Harris administration threatened the livelihood of countless entrepreneurs throughout the country. H.R. 1163, the Prove It Act, would give small businesses the power to fight back and ensure that their voices are heard throughout the rulemaking process.

This legislation is widely supported by small business and furthers President Trump's deregulation agenda, so I am proud to support this bill. And I hope my colleagues agree that it is time to reduce regulatory burdens so that small businesses can do what they do best, provide for their customers.

So, does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Ms. GOODLANDER. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Okay, so approved. Is there an amendment at the desk? We could briefly pause and we will distribute it around to the rest of us here.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 1163——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize Ms. Goodlander for 5 minutes on the amendment.

Ms. GOODLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a simple amendment, a straightforward amendment that would require any petitioner under the Prove It Act to actually prove that they are a small business. So why does this matter?

Look, as I read this bill I am very concerned that it could be easily exploited by big corporations, the same big corporations that are about to get a big tax break. It could be exploited because big corporations have well-oiled lobbying machines that could file petitions under this act through their corporate lobbyists.

So, if you care, and I believe that the Members of this committee do, about protecting real small businesses, the small businesses in our community and preventing their voices from being drowned out by big corporations and a sea of corporate lobbyists, I urge you to support this straightforward, common sense amendment.

And I would just point out, Mr. Chairman, this amendment is offered in the same basic spirit that so many of the amendments have been offered this morning, that we want to make the Small Business Administration actually work for hard-working small businesses in our districts.

To do that, though, we really need transparency. We need answers to basic questions that so many of us have asked. You know, in my home state of New Hampshire we have seen a reduction in the workforce of the Small Business Administration by nearly 50 percent. I am all about bringing the SBA back to main street, but that is not what is happening in the last 100 days.

At the same time we have seen random and unexplained firings on some of the most important boards that the SBA has created, including the Small Business Regulatory Fairness Act Board. Two of my constituents have been summarily fired without any reason from boards that make the Small Business Administration work better for hard-working small businesses.

You know, one of my constituents, Melissa Florio from Albany, New Hampshire, was appointed to a 3-year term on the Small Business Regulatory Fairness Board for region 1.

She started her company, Ambix Manufacturing, a plastics engineering and manufacturing company during the Great Recession. She is hard-working. She has run a small business.

She is serving on this board that is designed to do exactly what I think we all want to see, cutting red tape, making the SBA work better for small businesses. She was randomly fired without explanation.

And I want to enter into the record, Mr. Chairman, yet another letter that I have sent to Administrator Loeffler asking for answers to basic questions.

Chairman WILLIAMS. So moved.

Ms. GOODLANDER. Thank you. You know, I would just say that in order to make the SBA work better we need transparency. It is what good government is all about.

With that, I thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentlelady yields back.

Is there further debate on the amendment?

Mr. Finstad from Minnesota.

Mr. FINSTAD. Thank you, Mr. Chair. In this committee room just in the last few weeks we have heard from small businesses all over this country,.

And one of the questions that I asked a few different times to a few of those different small business owners is when it comes to the regulatory climate of this country and when it comes to the permitting and the legal work that their small businesses find themselves in anytime they are interacting within government, who do they go to?

And it was told to me over and over again that these small businesses act as the owner, the CFO, the CEO, the janitor, the scheduler, the chief broom operator, and they did not have a stable worth of compliance officers or regulatory folks that can deal with some of these issues and the regulatory hoops and loops that our government puts on them.

And so they do find value in groups like the NFIB and the Chamber and others because of that help that those groups can provide. So, this amendment imposes more unnecessary administrative burdens on petitioners, potentially deterring small businesses that are already stretched thin and busy and associations and trade groups from filing petitions on behalf of these small businesses.

It also undermines the very purpose of the bill, which is to give small businesses a meaningful voice in the regulatory process. And so with that being said, I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

And I yield back.

Chairman WILLIAMS. I now recognize the Ranking Member for 5 minutes.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As stated repeatedly, this committee has heard concerns that the RFA has become a tool for powerful companies to obstruct the regulatory process. Being transparent is not a regulatory burden.

We need to come clean with the American people. The Prove It Act would allow large organizations representing the interests of small entities to challenge the agencies' regulatory flexibility analysis without requiring them to identify which small business they purport to represent or how those small businesses will be harmed.

My colleague Ms. Goodlander is offering a common sense amendment that will bring transparency to the process. Why are we so afraid of transparency? It is what good government is all about.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentlelady yields back.

Is there further debate on the amendment?

Okay. I will move to strike the last word. And this amendment requests petitioners to produce more information than necessary. I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

The question now occurs on the amendment offered by the gentlelady from New Hampshire.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Ms. GOODLANDER. Mr. Chairman, I would like to move for a recorded vote.

Chairman WILLIAMS. Okay. A recorded vote has been requested. A roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Now, does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Mr. MCGARVEY. I would like to offer an amendment, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The gentleman is recognized. There is an amendment at the desk and we will briefly pause while staff distributes the amendment. We are good? Okay.

Okay. The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 1163——

Chairman WILLIAMS. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

And I now recognize the gentleman from Kentucky, Mr. McGarvey, for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Prove It Act was a bad idea when Republicans forced it through this committee last Congress and it is an even worse idea today. Now, the bill hasn't changed. It is the same unworkable policy that would empower the country's biggest corporations to paralyze all federal rulemaking under the guise of protecting small businesses.

It is the context of what else is happening today that makes this bill so much worse because as we sit here in the Small Business Committee right now other committees throughout the House are also meeting to mark up the disastrous Republican budget, a budget that will steal from working people and our children's futures to make the richest Americans even richer and the most profitable corporations continuing to get those profits.

They are meeting in financial services. Next week it will be Energy and Commerce and Agriculture. Republicans have promised to make over a trillion dollars of cuts to health insurance and hunger programs, all to pay for tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans. That is why this bill is an even worse idea today.

For the Republicans it is not enough to give our biggest corporations and wealthiest individuals a massive tax break instead of giving one to you. They want big business now to have a veto over federal policy, too.

My amendment is simple. It creates, I am sorry. In the Budget Committee I offered amendments to the reconciliation bill to try and protect veterans from some of these most painful Republican cuts. Our Republican colleagues rejected those amendments, but I will try here, too.

So, my amendment is simple. It creates an exemption from this bill for any rulemaking that an agency finds will have a substantial beneficial impact on veterans. So, if Republicans are so intent on cutting Medicaid, which 10 percent of veterans rely on, or ACA subsidies, which help another 5 percent of veterans get health care, or SNAP, which puts food on the table for over 1 million veterans, then we should at least protect them from the damage of the Prove It Act.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and yield back.

Mr. SCHMIDT. [Presiding.] Is there further debate on the amendment?

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota, Mr. Finstad.

Mr. FINSTAD. Thank you, Mr. Chair. This amendment allows agencies to bypass the crucial checks and balances which create exemptions that undermine transparency and accountability. Removing the safeguard risks agencies bypassing important due diligence measures, which could lead to unintended consequences.

We must ensure that all rules go through the proper due diligence to protect small businesses and the taxpayers of this country, and this amendment weakens that effort. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting no on this amendment.

And with that, I yield back.

Mr. SCHMIDT. The Chair recognizes the Ranking Member for 5 minutes.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Throughout our history American veterans have put their lives on the line in defense of our homeland. Each and every day they make enough innumerable sacrifices to serve our country. That is why I am strongly supporting Mr. McGarvey's amendment, which will carve out an exemption for rules that benefit veterans.

It is vital that these rules are not delayed by special interests. We owe this much to our nation's veterans. My colleague Mr. McGarvey has been a tireless advocate, both on this committee and the Veterans Affairs Committee. His amendment ties together both aspects of his work, and I am proud to lend my voice and vote in favor of it.

I urge all my colleagues to support this amendment. And I yield back.

Mr. SCHMIDT. Is there further debate on the amendment? Hearing none, I move to strike the last word. The Prove It Act helps to ensure that small businesses have the ability to hold agencies accountable. We can't achieve this without the critical checks and balances that the base text provides. I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

The question now occurs on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Kentucky.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Mr. MCGARVEY. I ask for a recorded vote, Mr. Chair.

Mr. SCHMIDT. A recorded vote has been requested. A roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman?

Mr. SCHMIDT. The Chair recognizes the Ranking Member.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. I have an amendment at the desk.

Mr. SCHMIDT. There is an amendment at the desk. We will briefly pause while the staff distributes the amendment.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute——

Mr. SCHMIDT. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize the Ranking Member for 5 minutes on the amendment,

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This amendment will strike the numerous analytical procedures in the Prove It Act that will enable big corporations to roll back rules and put small businesses on uneven ground.

In its place, advocacy will be required to train agencies on how to comply with the law. The training programs have made a significant difference in the rule writing process and requiring ongoing training will only lead to more success.

In fact, GAO found that agencies are generally complying with the RFA. They are just in need of more training. How could you be against that? How could you shortchange small businesses in America by not providing the training, equipping them with the skill that they need in order to do their job?

The bottom line, my amendment will foster a constructive working relationship between advocacy and federal agencies rather than create an adversarial one. My amendment will also submit a report to Congress on the retrospective review requirements under Section 610.

Small business owners invested significant resources to comply with the existing requirements and deregulation will cost them time and money. Deregulation also leads to a patchwork of state regulations which makes it harder for small businesses to comply with multiple requirements. They need certainty, not chaos.

But what is known with this administration? Chaos. We got tariff one day, the next half an hour we got a tweet saying that those tariffs are off. And here we are, Members talking to small businesses, listening to small business and what is the thing that they tell you? That they need certainty and that is not what they are getting from this administration.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and I yield back.

Mr. SCHMIDT. Is there further debate on the amendment?

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota, Mr. Finstad.

Mr. FINSTAD. Thank you, Mr. Chair. The Biden administration continuously abused the regulatory process which resulted in delays and lack of transparency.

And in regards to the training on the RFA, let me just again refresh everyone that this was established in 1980. I was 4 years old at the time. I think we have had a lot of opportunities and years under our belt to become good at this, and clearly it is not.

And so the committee found these regulatory failures that we have seen in recent history that have directly harmed small businesses by creating an uncertain and burdensome environment.

This bill is a common sense solution to improve efficiency, and this amendment would only add more bureaucratic red tape that further prevents small businesses from being protected against un-

necessary regulations. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting no on this amendment.

Thank you, Mr. Chair, and I yield back.

Mr. SCHMIDT. Is there further debate on the amendment?

The Chair recognizes——

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. No.

Mr. SCHMIDT. No. Further debate on the amendment? Hearing none, I move to strike the last word. I would hope that we could all agree that saddling extra costs onto small businesses due to regulations should be stopped.

Unfortunately, the Biden administration's regulatory assault added $1.8 trillion in business-killing costs onto entrepreneurs. We need to right those wrongs and this amendment does not help us get there. I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

The question occurs on the amendment offered by the Ranking Member.

All those in favor, say aye.

Those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I ask for a recorded vote.

Mr. SCHMIDT. A recorded vote has been requested. A roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed. Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Mr. Chairman?

Mr. SCHMIDT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland, Mr. Olszewski.

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I have an amendment at the desk.

Mr. SCHMIDT. There is an amendment at the desk. We will pause briefly while the staff distributes the amendment.

The clerk will report the amendment.

The CLERK. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 1163——

Mr. SCHMIDT. Without objection, the amendment is considered as read.

I now recognize the gentleman for 5 minutes on the amendment.

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. My amendment to H.R. 1163 is meant to, again, seek to provide relief for workforce development programs and rural small businesses. While the Prove It Act of 2025 is well-intentioned, the bill poses serious risks to our ability to govern effectively and respond to the pressing challenges faced by working Americans and small businesses alike.

At its core, the legislation demands that federal agencies prove the impact of proposed regulations on small entities before moving forward, but let's be clear. This is not just about transparency or good governance.

The bill adds layers of bureaucracy that threatens to paralyze the rulemaking process, particularly for rules that protect workers, ensure public safety, and support emerging sectors of our economy.

By opening the door for well-resourced trade associations to challenge virtually any rule, the bill could end up requiring the chief counsel to review agencies' Regulatory Flexibility Act compliance

for many of the thousands of rules issued each year, to say nothing of the agencies' periodic reviews of existing rules.

That would do little to help small businesses but it would help powerful companies with money to hire well-connected lobbyists. CBO estimates that this bill would increase administrative costs for most agencies, including advocacy.

Accordingly, CBO reported that H.R. 7198, identical legislation introduced in the previous Congress, would increase direct spending for independent agencies by $10 million, reduce revenues by $7 million over the 2025 to 2034 period, and increase spending by $35 million over the 2025 to 2029 period, subject to availability of appropriated funds.

Who pays the price for these delays? The American taxpayer, our working families, those who we all claim to support. Small businesses are waiting for fair access to capital. Communities need investment in workforce development. Rural entrepreneurs are struggling to compete in today's economy.

Again, this amendment ensures that when proposed federal rules are projected to have a substantial benefit on workforce development and rural small business they will not be unnecessarily delayed or burdened by procedural hurdles.

By moving swiftly and flexibly in cases where these rules offer proven benefits this amendment strikes the right balance maintaining regulatory oversight while empowering growth and innovation in places that need it most.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and show that Congress stands behind smart, targeted policies that strengthen our workforce and uplift rural small businesses.

With that, Mr. Chairman I yield back.

Mr. SCHMIDT. Is there further debate on the amendment?

The Chair recognized the gentleman from Minnesota, Mr. Finstad.

Mr. FINSTAD. Thank you, Mr. Chair. This amendment creates a massive loophole to the original bill to bypass key small business protections based on vague, self-certified claims of substantial beneficial effect. This amendment opens the door for abuse and effectively cutting the core safeguards of the RFA that the Prove It Act is designed to strengthen.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment to avoid repeating the same flawed, self-certification practices that enabled over $200 billion in COVID-19 fraud, burdening taxpayers, and undermining public trust.

Again, I ask my colleagues to join me in voting no on this amendment. I yield back.

Mr. SCHMIDT. Further debate?

The Chair recognizes the Ranking Member for 5 minutes.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before I get into my statement, I just would like to remind everyone that the fraud that the gentleman is talking about started with the fact that the administration of Donald Trump removed the guardrails that were put in place to prevent fraud, and most of the fraud that took place took place under the admin of the previous administration of Donald Trump.

And here we are. Smart, well-crafted regulations add tremendous value to the everyday lives of our constituents.

Dr. Olszewski's amendment would exempt regulations promoting workforce development and rural small businesses from the Prove It Act at a time when we need it most.

I am pleased to lend my support to his efforts to ensure our regulatory system continues to aid our communities. I urge all my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. SCHMIDT. Does the Ranking Member yield back?

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Yes, sir, I yield back.

Mr. SCHMIDT. Is there further debate on the amendment? Seeing none, I move to strike the last word. Like my colleague mentioned, this amendment ignores the safeguards that the Prove It Act puts in place.

The Prove It Act is critical to make sure small businesses can hold agencies accountable and stop unnecessary, costly, and overly burdensome regulations. I urge Members to vote no on this amendment.

The question now occurs on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Maryland.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it and the amendment is not agreed to.

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Mr. Chairman, I would request a recorded vote, please.

Mr. SCHMIDT. A recorded vote has been requested. A roll call vote is ordered. Further proceedings on the amendment are postponed.

Does anyone else wish to offer an amendment?

Okay, very well. The question now occurs on the adoption of the substitute amendment offered to H.R. 1163 by Mr. Finstad.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, say no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it. The amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 1163 is adopted.

The question is now on favorably reporting H.R. 1163 as amended to the House.

All those in favor will say aye.

Those opposed, no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it and H.R. 1163, as amended, is agreed to.

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Chair? Mr. Chair, I would ask for a recorded vote.

Mr. SCHMIDT. A recorded vote has been requested. A roll call vote is ordered. Pursuant to committee rule 13 and House rule 11, further proceedings on the bill are postponed. No further proceedings at this time. The committee will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair. Members, please return at 5:45 p.m. today to resume consideration of the bills on which roll call votes were requested and postponed. The committee is in recess.

[Recess.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. This committee will come to order. The committee will resume consideration of the bills on which roll call votes were ordered.

We will now move to H.R. 2968. The question is on the amendment offered by Dr. Conaway from the great state of New jersey. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. She is really sick. Okay.

Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The question now is on the amendment offered by the Ranking Member from the great state of New York. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. There we go. All right. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The question now is the adopting H.R. 2968 as amended and ordering it favorably to the House. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 15 and the noes are 11.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The motion is agreed to and H.R. 2968 as amended is adopted and will be reported favorably to the House.

Next we have H.R. 2027. The question is on the amendment offered by Dr. Conaway from New Jersey. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The next question is on the amendment offered by Mrs. McIver from New Jersey. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The next question is on the amendment offered by Dr. Morrison from Minnesota. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The next question is on the second amendment to H.R. 2027 by Mrs. McIver from New Jersey. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The question now is on adopting H.R. 2027 as amended and forwarding it favorably to the House. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 15 and the noes are 11.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The motion is agreed to and H.R. 2027 as amended is adopted and will be reported favorably to the House.

The next bill is H.R. 2966. The question is now is on adopting H.R. 2966 as amended and ordering it favorably to the House. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 15 and the noes are 11.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The motion is agreed to and H.R. 2966 as amended is adopted and will be reported favorably to the House.

We will now move to H.R. 2931. The question is on the amendment offered by Mr. Cisneros from the great state of California. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Hey doctor? Are there any other Members besides the doctor who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The question is now on the amendment offered by Ms. Velázquez from the great state of New York. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote. The clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The question now is on adopting H.R. 2931 as amended and ordering it favorably to the House. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 15 and the noes are 11.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The motion is agreed to and H.R. 2931 as amended is adopted and will be reported favorably to the House.

We will now move on to H.R. 2987. The question now is adopting H.R. 2987 as amended and ordering it favorably to the House. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any of the Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 15 and the noes are 11.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The motion is agreed to and H.R. 2987 as amended is adopted will be reported favorably to the House.

We will now move to H.R. 2965, and the question is on the amendment offered by Dr. Olszewski from the great state of Maryland. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote. The clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The question is on the amendment offered by Dr. Morrison from the great state of Minnesota. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members, let me see here. I need to vote I guess. Okay, there we go.

Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The question now is on adopting H.R. 2965 as amended and ordering it favorably to the House. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 15 and the noes are 11.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The motion is agreed to and H.R. 2965 as amended is adopted and will be adopted favorably to the House.

Finally, we have H.R. 1163. The question is on the amendment offered by Ms. Goodlander of the great state of New Hampshire. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. All right. The amendment is not agreed to.

The question is now on the amendment offered by Mr. McGarvey from the great state of Kentucky. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The question is on the amendment offered by the Ranking Member from the great state of New York. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

Representative Schmidt? Okay.

And I will repeat. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The question is on the amendment offered by Dr. Olszewski from the great state of Maryland.

The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 11 and the noes are 15.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The amendment is not agreed to.

The question now is adopting H.R. 1163 as amended and ordering it favorably to the House. The clerk will open the vote.

[The vote was taken.]

Chairman WILLIAMS. Are there any other Members who have not voted or wish to change their vote?

If not, the clerk will close the vote and the clerk will report.

The CLERK. Mr. Chairman, on this vote the ayes are 15 and the noes are 11.

Chairman WILLIAMS. The motion is agreed to and H.R. 1163 as amended is adopted and will be reported favorably to the House.

Now, without objection, the committee staff is authorized to make technical and conforming changes and Members have 2 business days to file additional supplemental dissenting and minority views.

I want to thank all of you for being here today. This has gone well. If there is no further business, this concludes today's markup. Without objection, the committee stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 6:22 p.m., the Committee was adjourned.]

APPENDIX

I

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1163

To amend title 5, United States Code, to require greater transparency for Federal regulatory decisions that impact small businesses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 2025

Mr. FINSTAD (for himself, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. MORAN, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. STAUBER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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A BILL

To amend title 5, United States Code, to require greater transparency for Federal regulatory decisions that impact small businesses, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Prove It Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. INITIAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 603(b)—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) where feasible, any reasonably foreseeable potential indirect costs the proposed rule may impose on small entities, including small entities that—

''(A) purchase products or services from, sell products or services to, or otherwise conduct business with entities directly regulated by the rule;

''(B) are directly regulated by other governmental entities as a result of the rule; or

''(C) are not directly regulated by the agency as a result of the rule but are otherwise subject to other agency rules as a result of the rule.'';

(2) in section 605(b), by striking ''The agency'' and inserting ''Not later than 10 days after completing the certification described in this subsection, the agency''; and

(3) by inserting after section 605 the following:

"§ 605A. Review procedures relating to initial regulatory flexibility analysis certifications

"(a) FILING A PETITION TO REVIEW AGENCY CERTIFICATION OF A PROPOSED RULE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Any small entity, group of small entities, or organization representing the interests of small entities may petition the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration (in this section referred to as the 'Chief Counsel') to review a certification published under section 605(b) that a proposed rule will not, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

"(2) FORM.—The Chief Counsel shall—

"(A) determine the method, timing, and form of disseminating a petition described in paragraph (1); and

"(B) display the information described in subparagraph (A) on the website of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration in a conspicuous manner.

"(3) CONTENTS.—Each petition described in paragraph (1) with respect to a certification published under section 605(b) for a proposed rule shall clearly and concisely—

"(A) specify the name of the petitioner and a telephone number, a mailing address, and an email address that the Chief Counsel may use to communicate with the petitioner;

"(B) if the petitioner is an organization, provide additional identifying information, as applicable, including the organizational or corporate status of the petitioner, the State of incorporation of the petitioner, the registered agent of the petitioner, the interest of the petitioner in representing small entities affected by the proposed rule and the certification at issue, and the name and authority of the individual who signed the petition on behalf of the organizational or corporate petitioner;

"(C) present the specific problems or issues that the petitioner believes should be addressed or considered through a review of the certification, such as—

"(i) any specific circumstances in which the determination of the certification that the proposed rule will not, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities is incorrect, incomplete, or inadequate; or

"(ii) why the proposed rule would, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities;

"(D) cite, enclose, or reference any relevant and non-protected or confidential technical, scientific, or other data or information supporting any assertion of the problems or issues with the certification;

"(E) present a proposed solution to the problems or issues raised in the petition, including potential regulatory or compliance alternatives to the proposed rule;

"(F) provide an analysis, discussion, or argument that explains how the proposed solution described in subparagraph (E) solves the problems or issues raised in the petition; and

"(G) cite, enclose, or reference any other publicly available data or information supporting the proposed solution described in subparagraph (E).

"(b) CONSULTATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Any entity or organization desiring to file a petition under subsection (a) may

request a consultation with the Chief Counsel before or after filing the petition.

"(2) FORM.—The Chief Counsel shall—

"(A) determine the method, timing, and form of requesting a consultation with the Chief Counsel under paragraph (1); and

"(B) display the information described in subparagraph (A) on the website of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration in a conspicuous manner.

"(3) LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE.—In any consultation regarding a petition under paragraph (1), the Chief Counsel—

"(A) may only—

"(i) describe the process for filing, docketing, tracking, closing, amending, withdrawing, and resolving the petition; and

"(ii) assist the petitioner to clarify the petition so that the Chief Counsel is able to understand the issues of concern to the petitioner; and

"(B) may not advise a petitioner on whether the petition should be amended or withdrawn.

"(c) PRIMA FACIE REVIEW.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon receipt of a petition filed under this section with respect to the certification of a proposed rule, the Chief Counsel shall make an initial prima facie determination on the merit of the issues raised in the petition as to the properness of the certification and whether the proposed rule in question would, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

"(2) NO FURTHER REVIEW.—If, following the prima facie review of a petition under paragraph (1), the Chief Counsel determines that the issues raised in the petition do not merit further review by the Chief Counsel, the Chief Counsel shall, not later than 10 days after receipt of the petition, inform the petitioner of that determination and the matter shall be closed.

"(3) FURTHER REVIEW.—If, following the prima facie review of a petition under paragraph (1), the Chief Counsel determines that the issues raised in the petition do merit further review by the Chief Counsel, the Chief Counsel shall, not later than 10 days after receipt of the petition, inform the petitioner and the agency that promulgated the pro-

posed rule that the Chief Counsel shall conduct a full review of the certification and proposed rule to which the petition relates under subsection (d).

"(d) FULL REVIEW.—

"(1) CONSIDERATIONS; MEETING.—In conducting a full review under this subsection with respect to the certification made under section 605(b), the Chief Counsel shall—

"(A) consider—

"(i) whether the agency that promulgated the proposed rule correctly determined which small entities will be affected by the proposed rule;

"(ii) whether the agency considered adequate economic data to assess whether the proposed rule will have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities; and

"(iii) the economic implications of the proposed rule; and

"(B) convene a virtual or in-person meeting between the Chief Counsel, the petitioner, representatives of the agency that promulgated the proposed rule who are determined appropriate by the Chief Counsel, and the Adminis-

trator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs to—

"(i) provide positions and support for those positions regarding the certification of the proposed rule; and

"(ii) allow the Chief Counsel to ask questions as the Chief Counsel determines necessary to make a final determination as to the validity of the certification.

"(2) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Chief Counsel begins a full review of a certification made with respect to a proposed rule under paragraph (1), the Chief Counsel shall submit to the petitioner and the agency that promulgated the proposed rule, and publish in the Federal Register and on the website of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration, the results of the review conducted under paragraph (1).

"(3) REQUIREMENT TO PERFORM ANALYSES.—If, after a full review of a certification made with respect to a proposed rule under paragraph (1), the Chief Counsel determines that the proposed rule will, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities, the agency that promulgated the proposed rule shall per-

form an initial regulatory flexibility analysis and a final regulatory flexibility analysis for the proposed rule under sections 603 and 604, respectively.

"(4) PENALTY.—If an agency fails to attend the required meeting under paragraph (1)(B) or in any other way fails to assist the Chief Counsel in a full review under paragraph (1) with respect to a proposed rule of the agency, as determined by the Chief Counsel, the final rule shall not apply to small entities.

"(5) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—For purposes of judicial review under chapter 7 of this title, a certification made by an agency under section 605(b) for which a petition is filed under subsection (a) shall be considered final agency action as of the date on which the Chief Counsel—

"(A) makes a determination under subsection (c)(2) that the issues raised in the petition do not merit further review; or

"(B) publishes the results of a full review of the certification under paragraph (1).".

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 605 the following:

"605A. Review procedures relating to initial regulatory flexibility analysis certifications.".

SEC. 3. PUBLICATION OF GUIDANCE.

Section 609 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) With respect to any rule that an agency determines is likely to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities, the head of the agency shall, on regulations.gov or any similar internet website—

"(1) publish all guidance documents and other relevant documents, as determined by the agency, including any updated guidance documents that set forth interpretations of the rule; and

"(2) allow for comments on the documents described in paragraph (1) to ensure that small entities may access and provide feedback on those documents.".

SEC. 4. REVIEW PROCEDURES FOR SECTION 610 PERIODIC REVIEW OF RULES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 610 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "the following factors";

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(C) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) any indirect costs described in the initial regulatory flexibility analysis under section 603(b)(6), and any other indirect costs that may have arisen during the 10-year period described in subsection (a).''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(d) If an agency fails to conduct a review of a rule as required under this section within the 10-year period described in subsection (a)—

''(1) the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration shall notify the agency that the rule has ceased to be effective;

''(2) the agency shall publish in the Federal Register a notification that the rule has ceased to be effective, and solicit comments for why the rule should be reinstated; and

''(3) if, based on the comments received under paragraph (2), the agency determines that the rule should be reinstated—

"(A) the agency shall have 180 days beginning on the date of that determination to complete the review of the rule under this section; and

"(B) upon completion of the review under subparagraph (A), the rule shall be reinstated, notwithstanding the notice and comment rulemaking procedures under section 553 of this title.".

(b) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by subsection (a)(2) shall apply with respect to any final rule issued by an agency—

(1) during the 5-year period preceding the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this Act or the amendments made by this Act.

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119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2027

To require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to relocate 30 percent of the employees assigned to headquarters to duty stations outside the Washington metropolitan area, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2025

Mr. ALFORD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

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A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to relocate 30 percent of the employees assigned to headquarters to duty stations outside the Washington metropolitan area, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Returning SBA to Main Street Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATION; ADMINISTRATOR.—The terms ''Administration'' and ''Administrator'' mean the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof, respectively.

(2) BUDGET JUSTIFICATION MATERIALS.—The term ''budget justification materials'' has the meaning given that term in section 3(b)(2)(A) of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note).

(3) EMPLOYEE.—The term ''employee'' has the meaning given that term in section 2105 of title 5, United States Code.

(4) HEADQUARTERS EMPLOYEE OF THE ADMINISTRATION.—The term ''headquarters employee of the Administration'' means—

(A) an employee of the Administration whose permanent duty station is at the headquarters of the Administration; or

(B) an employee of the Administration—

(i) who teleworks on a full-time basis; and

(ii) whose rate of pay is calculated based on the Washington metropolitan area rate of pay.

(5) HEADQUARTERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION.—The term ''headquarters of the Administration'' means the building serving as the principal managerial and administrative center of the Administration, in accordance with section 4(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 633(a)).

(6) PAY LOCALITY.—The term ''pay locality'' has the meaning given that term in section 5302 of title 5, United States Code.

(7) RURAL.—The term ''rural'' means any area that is not designated as an urban area, based on the most recent data available from the Bureau of the Census.

(8) TELEWORK.—The term ''telework'' has the meaning given that term in section 6501 of title 5, United States Code.

(9) TELEWORK ON A FULL-TIME BASIS.—The term ''telework on a full-time basis'' means that an employee is authorized to telework for 100 percent of the work days of the employee per pay period.

(10) WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA.—The term ''Washington metropolitan area'' means the geographic area to which the Washington metropolitan area rate of pay applies.

(11) WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA RATE OF PAY.—The term ''Washington metropolitan area rate of pay'' means the rate of pay in effect for the pay locality designated as ''Washington-Baltimore-Arlington, DC-MD-VA-WV-PA''.

SEC. 3. RELOCATION OF EMPLOYEE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, and not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, if the Administrator determines that implementing the requirements under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection will reduce the cost to the Federal Government (which determination the Administrator shall explain in detail in the report required under subsection (d) of this section) the Administrator shall—

(1) change the permanent duty station of not less than 30 percent of the headquarters employees of the Administration, as of the date of enactment of this Act, to be at an office of the Administration at a location outside the Washington metropolitan area, which shall be at locations throughout the regions of the Administration; and

(2) for each employee of the Administration whose permanent duty station is changed under paragraph (1), ensure that—

(A) the rate of pay of the employee is calculated based on the pay locality for the permanent duty station of the employee; and

(B) the employee is not authorized to telework on a full-time basis.

(b) DETERMINATION OF NEW DUTY STATIONS.—In determining the permanent duty stations of headquarters employees of the Administration under subsection (a)(1), the Administrator shall—

(1) promote geographic diversity, including consideration of rural markets; and

(2) ensure adequate staffing throughout the regions of the Administration, to promote in-person customer service.

(c) DETERMINATION OF EMPLOYEES ELIGIBLE FOR A CHANGE IN DUTY STATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Administrator shall include each headquarters employee of the Administration as eligible for a change in permanent duty station under subsection (a).

(2) EXCEPTION.—A headquarters employee of the Administration who is a qualified individual who receives an accommodation to telework on a full-time basis as a reasonable accommodation under title I of

the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12111 et seq.)—

(A) shall not be determined to be eligible for a change in permanent duty station under subsection (a); and

(B) shall be counted as a headquarters employee of the Administration for purposes of complying with subsection (a)(1).

(3) NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—Not later than the day before the date on which the Administrator submits the report required under subsection (d), the Administrator shall notify each headquarters employee of the Administration who the Administrator determines is eligible for a change in permanent duty station under subsection (a) of that determination.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report that provides—

(1) the number of headquarters employees of the Administration, as of the date of enactment of this Act;

(2) the number of headquarters employees of the Administration identified as eligible for a change in permanent duty station, in accordance with subsection (c);

(3) the number of headquarters employees of the Administration whose permanent duty station will be changed to be at an office of the Administration at a location outside the Washington metropolitan area under subsection (a);

(4) the number of headquarters employees of the Administration subject to an exception under subsection (c)(2); and

(5) the plan of the Administrator to implement subsection (a).

(e) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not earlier than 60 days, and not later than 90 days, after the date on which the Administrator submits the report required under subsection (d), the Administrator shall notify each headquarters employee of the Administration whose permanent duty station will be changed to be at an office of the Administration located outside the Washington metropolitan area under subsection (a)—

(A) that, effective 90 days after the date of the notification—

(i) the permanent duty station of the employee shall be changed;

(ii) the rate of pay of the employee shall be calculated based on the pay locality for such permanent duty station; and

(iii) the employee shall not be authorized to telework on a full-time basis; and

(B) of the location of such permanent duty station.

(2) FULL-TIME TELEWORKERS REMAINING IN THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For any employee described in subparagraph (B), effective on the date that is 180 days after the date on which the Administrator submits the report required under subsection (d), the employee shall not be authorized to telework on a full-time basis.

(B) EMPLOYEES COVERED.—An employee described in this subparagraph is a headquarters employee of the Administration—

(i) who teleworks on a full-time basis, as of the date of enactment of this Act;

(ii) who is not subject to an exception under subsection (c)(2); and

(iii) whose permanent duty station is not changed to be an office of the Administration at a location outside the Washington metropolitan area under subsection (a).

(3) NO RELOCATION INCENTIVES.—If, pursuant to this Act, the official worksite (as defined in section 531.602 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation) of an employee changes from the residence of the employee to the headquarters of the Administration, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the employee shall not be paid any relocation incentive.

SEC. 4. REDUCTION IN HEADQUARTERS OFFICE SPACE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall reduce the amount of office space for the headquarters of the Administration by not less than 30 percent.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Administrator shall—

(1) begin reducing office space under subsection (a) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) complete the reduction of office space required under subsection (a) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. INFORMATION INCLUDED IN BUDGET JUSTIFICATION MATERIALS PROVIDED TO CONGRESS.

The Administrator shall include in the first budget justification materials of the Administration submitted after the date of enactment of this Act, and the budget justification materials of the Administration for each fiscal year thereafter—

(1) the number of headquarters employees of the Administration;

(2) the number of employees of the Administration assigned to a permanent duty station in—

(A) a field office of the Administration;

(B) a district office of the Administration; or

(C) a regional office of the Administration;

(3) the number of employees of the Administration who telework on a full-time basis; and

(4) the number of employees of the Administration who are a qualified individual who receives an accommodation to telework on a full-time basis as a reasonable accommodation under title I of the Amer-

icans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12111 et seq.).

SEC. 6. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act and the application of the provision to any other person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 7. SUPERSESSION.

This Act shall supersede any other provision of law and any provision of a collective bargaining agreement or master labor agreement.

SEC. 8. NO PRIVATE CAUSE OF ACTION.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to establish a private cause of action, equitable or otherwise, to challenge any selection, change, or decision made, or action taken, under this Act.

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119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2987

To amend the Small Business Act to require a limit on the number of small business lending companies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 24, 2025

Mr. BRESNAHAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

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A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to require a limit on the number of small business lending companies, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Capping Excessive Awarding of SBLC Entrants Act" or the "CEASE Act".

SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF SMALL BUSINESS LENDING COMPANIES.

Section 23 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 650) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(k) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF SMALL BUSINESS LENDING COMPANIES.—The Administrator shall ensure that not more than 16 small business lending companies that are not nonprofit entities are authorized to make loans under section 7 at any time.''.

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119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2931

To direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to relocate certain offices of the Small Business Administration in sanctuary jurisdictions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2025

Mr. FINSTAD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

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A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to relocate certain offices of the Small Business Administration in sanctuary jurisdictions, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Save SBA from Sanctuary Cities Act''.

SEC. 2. RELOCATION OF CERTAIN OFFICES IN SANCTUARY JURISDICTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall relocate each covered office located in a sanctuary jurisdiction in accordance with this section.

(b) DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—Subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a covered office only if, prior to ordering the relocation of such covered office under such subsection, the Administrator makes a determination that such covered office is located in a sanctuary jurisdiction and makes such determination publicly available.

(c) RELOCATION REQUIREMENT.—When relocating a covered office under this section, the Administrator shall relocate such covered office to a location that—

(1) is not in a sanctuary jurisdiction; and

(2) if the State in which such covered office is located prior to such relocation is not a sanctuary jurisdiction, is in such State.

(d) SUSPENSION OF OPERATIONS.—During the period the Administrator is relocating a covered office under this section that is located in a State that is a sanctuary jurisdiction, such covered office shall cease the operations of such office in such State.

(e) RELOCATION DEADLINE.—

(1) DEADLINE.—Not later 60 days after the Administrator makes publicly available a determina-

tion under subsection (b) with respect to a covered office, the Administrator shall relocate such covered office in accordance with subsection (c).

(2) NONCOMPLIANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If a covered office described in paragraph (1) is not relocated in accordance with subsection (c) prior to the expiration of the 60-day period applicable to such relocation under such paragraph—

(i) not later 5 days after the expiration of such 60-day period, the head of such covered office shall submit to the Administrator a written explanation of why such covered office was not relocated prior to expiration of such 60-day period; and

(ii) during the period beginning on the day after expiration of such 60-day period and ending on the date on which such covered office is relocated to a location that is not in a sanctuary jurisdiction—

(I) such covered office shall cease operations; and

(II) each employee of the Administration whose duty station was at such covered office shall be assigned

to a duty station at another covered office that is located in the same State and not in a sanctuary jurisdiction or, if no other covered office is located in the same State and not in a sanctuary jurisdiction, any other covered office that is not located in a sanctuary jurisdiction.

(B) REMOVAL.—The Administrator shall immediately remove the head of a covered office required to submit a written explanation under subparagraph (A)(i) if—

(i) such head does not submit such a written explanation in accordance with such subparagraph; or

(ii) the Administrator determines that the reasons provided in the written explanation submitted by such head under such subparagraph for the relocation of such covered office not being completed prior to the expiration of the 60-day period described in paragraph (1) with respect to such covered office are insufficient.

(f) NEW OFFICE LIMITATION.—The Administrator may not establish a covered office in sanctuary jurisdiction.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term ''Administration'' means the Small Business Administration.

(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Administration.

(3) COVERED OFFICE.—The term ''covered office'' means a regional, district, or local office the Administration, other than the headquarters of the Administration, or any other component of the Administration fully funded by funds appropriated by Congress.

(4) SANCTUARY JURISDICTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by subparagraph (B), the term ''sanctuary jurisdiction'' means any State or political subdivision of a State that has in effect a statute, ordinance, policy, or practice that prohibits or restricts any government entity or official from—

(i) sending, receiving, maintaining, or exchanging with any Federal, State, or local government entity information re-

garding the citizenship or immigration status (lawful or unlawful) of any individual; or

(ii) complying with a request lawfully made by the Department of Homeland Security under section 236 or 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226 and 1357) to comply with a detainer for, or notify about the release of, an individual.

(B) EXCEPTION.—A State or political subdivision of a State shall not be deemed a sanctuary jurisdiction based solely on its having a policy whereby its officials will not share information regarding, or comply with a request made by the Department of Homeland Security under section 236 or 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226 and 1357) to comply with a detainer regarding, an individual who comes forward as a victim or a witness to a criminal offense.

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119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2968

To limit the authority of the Small Business Administration to facilitate access to voter registration, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2025

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself, Mr. ALFORD, Ms. KING-HINDS, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. SCHMIDT, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. WIED, Mr. JACK, Mr. DOWNING, Mr. BRESNAHAN, Mr. PATRONIS, and Mr. FINSTAD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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A BILL

To limit the authority of the Small Business Administration to facilitate access to voter registration, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Business over Ballots Act".

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Small Business Administration should focus on aiding and assisting small business concerns;

(2) facilitating access to voter registration is beyond the scope of the mission of the Administration and the authority of the Administration under Federal law; and

(3) any Executive order issued by the President may not conflict with this Act or otherwise compel the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to facilitate access to voter registration.

SEC. 3. LIMITATIONS ON FACILITATION OF ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION BY THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

(a) PROHIBITION.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration may not take any action to facilitate access to voter registration other than actions authorized by Federal law.

(b) TERMS OF CONTRACTS.—On or after the date of the enactment of this Act, any contract or other agreement entered into by the Administrator to provide assistance to a person shall include a term stating that such person may not use such assistance to facilitate access to voter registration.

(c) EXISTING RECIPIENTS.—A recipient of assistance from the Administrator may not use such assistance to facilitate access to voter registration unless explicitly authorized by the terms of such assistance.

(d) COVERED ENTITIES.—The Administrator may not use, act through, or otherwise make a request of a covered entity to engage in activities to facilitate access to voter registration unless the Administrator is so authorized by Congress.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(2) COVERED ENTITY.—The term ''covered entity''—

(A) means an entity, State government, or unit of local government that receives funding or other assistance from the Administrator under a contract, cooperative agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other agreement to carry out a program administered by the Administrator; and

(B) does not include a person that receives a loan or loan guarantee under section 7 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636).

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119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2965

To require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to ensure that the small business regulatory budget for a small business concern in a fiscal year is not greater than zero, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2025

Ms. VAN DUYNE (for herself and Ms. KING-HINDS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

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A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to ensure that the small business regulatory budget for a small business concern in a fiscal year is not greater than zero, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION RULEMAKING COSTS TO SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(2) RULE; RULEMAKING.—The terms ''rule'' and ''rulemaking'' have the meanings given those terms in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) SMALL BUSINESS.—The term ''small business'' has the same meaning as the term ''small business concern'' under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632), unless an agency, after consultation with the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration and after opportunity for public comment, establishes one or more definitions of such term which are appropriate to the activities of the agency and publishes such definition(s) in the Federal Register.

(4) SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY BUDGET.—The term ''small business regulatory budget'' means the cost to a small business of a rulemaking conducted by a Federal agency, including the cost resulting from the issuance of any new rule and the cost resulting from the modification or repeal of an existing rule.

(b) REQUIREMENT.—In fiscal year 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Administrator shall ensure that

the small business regulatory budget for the Small Business Administration for the applicable fiscal year is not greater than zero.

(c) ADVOCACY REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the end of fiscal year 2025, and annually thereafter, the Chief Counsel for the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration shall submit to Congress a report regarding rules issued by Federal agencies other than the Administration during the preceding fiscal year that have an impact on small businesses, which shall—

(1) include each such rule issued during the preceding fiscal year; and

(2) be disaggregated by the Federal agency that issued each such rule.

SEC. 3. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act.

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119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2966

To require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to require an applicant for certain loans of the Administration to provide certain citizenship status documentation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2025

Ms. VAN DUYNE (for herself and Mr. CLOUD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

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A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to require an applicant for certain loans of the Administration to provide certain citizenship status documentation, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''American Entrepreneurs First Act''.

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS FOR CITIZENSHIP STATUS DOCUMENTATION FOR CERTAIN LOAN PROGRAMS OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall ensure that any application for a loan submitted under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) or title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.) includes the following information:

(1) The date of birth for each individual applicant for such loan or for each individual owner of an applicant concern.

(2) Certification that—

(A) an individual applicant for such loan is a citizen of the United States, a national of the United States, or a lawful permanent resident of the United States; or

(B) an applicant concern for such loan or a guarantor for such loan is 100 percent beneficially owned by individuals who are either citizens of the United States, nationals of the United States, or lawful permanent residents of the United States.

(3) Certification that no direct or indirect owner of an applicant concern for such loan is an ineligible person.

(4) Documentation of the alien registration number of any lawful permanent resident who is—

(A) an individual applicant for such loan; or

(B) an owner of an applicant concern.

(b) PROHIBITION.—An applicant for a loan under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) or title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.) is ineligible for such loan if—

(1) the applicant submits the application for such loan after the date of the enactment of this Act and such application does not contain the information required under subsection (a);

(2) in the case such applicant is an applicant concern, any direct or indirect owner of such applicant concern is an ineligible person; or

(3) in the case such applicant is an individual applicant, such applicant is an ineligible person.

(c) INELIGIBLE PERSON DEFINED.—In this Act, the term ''ineligible person'' means—

(1) an asylee;

(2) a refugee;

(3) an individual issued a visa to remain in the United States;

(4) an alien classified as a nonimmigrant under any subparagraph of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15));

(5) an alien to whom deferred action has been granted pursuant to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy announced by the Secretary of Homeland Security on June 15, 2012; or

(6) an alien present in the United States without lawful status under the immigration laws (as such term is defined in section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a))).

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AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

TO H.R. 1163

OFFERED BY M[redacted]. [redacted]

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Prove It Act".

SEC. 2. INITIAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 603(b)—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(6) where feasible, any reasonably foreseeable potential indirect costs the proposed rule may impose on small entities, including small entities that—

"(A) purchase products or services from, sell products or services to, or otherwise conduct business with entities directly regulated by the rule;

''(B) are directly regulated by other governmental entities as a result of the rule; or

''(C) are not directly regulated by the agency as a result of the rule but are otherwise subject to other agency rules as a result of the rule.'';

(2) in section 605(b), by striking ''The agency'' and inserting ''Not later than 10 days after completing the certification described in this subsection, the agency''; and

(3) by inserting after section 605 the following:

''§ 605A. Review procedures relating to initial regulatory flexibility analysis certifications

''(a) FILING A PETITION TO REVIEW AGENCY CERTIFICATION OF A PROPOSED RULE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Any small entity, group of small entities, or organization representing the interests of small entities may petition the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration (in this section referred to as the 'Chief Counsel') to review a certification published under section 605(b) that a proposed rule will not, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

''(2) FORM.—The Chief Counsel shall—

"(A) determine the method, timing, and form of disseminating a petition described in paragraph (1); and

"(B) display the information described in subparagraph (A) on the website of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration in a conspicuous manner.

"(3) CONTENTS.—Each petition described in paragraph (1) with respect to a certification published under section 605(b) for a proposed rule shall clearly and concisely—

"(A) specify the name of the petitioner and a telephone number, a mailing address, and an email address that the Chief Counsel may use to communicate with the petitioner;

"(B) if the petitioner is an organization, provide additional identifying information, as applicable, including the organizational or corporate status of the petitioner, the State of incorporation of the petitioner, the registered agent of the petitioner, the interest of the petitioner in representing small entities affected by the proposed rule and the certification at issue, and the name and authority of the individual

who signed the petition on behalf of the organizational or corporate petitioner;

''(C) present the specific problems or issues that the petitioner believes should be addressed or considered through a review of the certification, such as—

''(i) any specific circumstances in which the determination of the certification that the proposed rule will not, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities is incorrect, incomplete, or inadequate; or

''(ii) why the proposed rule would, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities;

''(D) cite, enclose, or reference any relevant and non-protected or confidential technical, scientific, or other data or information supporting any assertion of the problems or issues with the certification;

''(E) present a proposed solution to the problems or issues raised in the petition, including potential regulatory or compliance alternatives to the proposed rule;

"(F) provide an analysis, discussion, or argument that explains how the proposed solution described in subparagraph (E) solves the problems or issues raised in the petition; and

"(G) cite, enclose, or reference any other publicly available data or information supporting the proposed solution described in subparagraph (E).

"(b) CONSULTATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Any entity or organization desiring to file a petition under subsection (a) may request a consultation with the Chief Counsel before or after filing the petition.

"(2) FORM.—The Chief Counsel shall—

"(A) determine the method, timing, and form of requesting a consultation with the Chief Counsel under paragraph (1); and

"(B) display the information described in subparagraph (A) on the website of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration in a conspicuous manner.

"(3) LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE.—In any consultation regarding a petition under paragraph (1), the Chief Counsel—

"(A) may only—

"(i) describe the process for filing, docketing, tracking, closing, amending, withdrawing, and resolving the petition; and

"(ii) assist the petitioner to clarify the petition so that the Chief Counsel is able to understand the issues of concern to the petitioner; and

"(B) may not advise a petitioner on whether the petition should be amended or withdrawn.

"(c) PRIMA FACIE REVIEW.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon receipt of a petition filed under this section with respect to the certification of a proposed rule, the Chief Counsel shall make an initial prima facie determination on the merit of the issues raised in the petition as to the properness of the certification and whether the proposed rule in question would, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

"(2) NO FURTHER REVIEW.—If, following the prima facie review of a petition under paragraph (1), the Chief Counsel determines that the issues raised in the petition do not merit further review by the

Chief Counsel, the Chief Counsel shall, not later than 10 days after receipt of the petition, inform the petitioner of that determination and the matter shall be closed.

"(3) FURTHER REVIEW.—If, following the prima facie review of a petition under paragraph (1), the Chief Counsel determines that the issues raised in the petition do merit further review by the Chief Counsel, the Chief Counsel shall, not later than 10 days after receipt of the petition, inform the petitioner and the agency that promulgated the proposed rule that the Chief Counsel shall conduct a full review of the certification and proposed rule to which the petition relates under subsection (d).

"(d) FULL REVIEW.—

"(1) CONSIDERATIONS; MEETING.—In conducting a full review under this subsection with respect to the certification made under section 605(b), the Chief Counsel shall—

"(A) consider—

"(i) whether the agency that promulgated the proposed rule correctly determined which small entities will be affected by the proposed rule;

"(ii) whether the agency considered adequate economic data to assess whether the proposed rule will have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities; and

"(iii) the economic implications of the proposed rule; and

"(B) convene a virtual or in-person meeting between the Chief Counsel, the petitioner, representatives of the agency that promulgated the proposed rule who are determined appropriate by the Chief Counsel, and the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs to—

"(i) provide positions and support for those positions regarding the certification of the proposed rule; and

"(ii) allow the Chief Counsel to ask questions as the Chief Counsel determines necessary to make a final determination as to the validity of the certification.

"(2) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Chief Counsel begins a full review of a certification made with respect to a proposed rule under paragraph (1), the Chief Coun-

sel shall submit to the petitioner and the agency that promulgated the proposed rule, and publish in the Federal Register and on the website of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration, the results of the review conducted under paragraph (1).

''(3) REQUIREMENT TO PERFORM ANALYSES.—If, after a full review of a certification made with respect to a proposed rule under paragraph (1), the Chief Counsel determines that the proposed rule will, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities, the agency that promulgated the proposed rule shall perform an initial regulatory flexibility analysis and a final regulatory flexibility analysis for the proposed rule under sections 603 and 604, respectively.

''(4) PENALTY.—If an agency fails to attend the required meeting under paragraph (1)(B) or in any other way fails to assist the Chief Counsel in a full review under paragraph (1) with respect to a proposed rule of the agency, as determined by the Chief Counsel, the final rule shall not apply to small entities.

''(5) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—For purposes of judicial review under chapter 7 of this title, a certification made by an agency under section 605(b) for

which a petition is filed under subsection (a) shall be considered final agency action as of the date on which the Chief Counsel—

"(A) makes a determination under subsection (c)(2) that the issues raised in the petition do not merit further review; or

"(B) publishes the results of a full review of the certification under paragraph (1).".

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 605 the following:

"605A. Review procedures relating to initial regulatory flexibility analysis certifications.".

SEC. 3. PUBLICATION OF GUIDANCE.

Section 609 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) With respect to any rule that an agency determines is likely to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities, the head of the agency shall, on regulations.gov or any similar internet website—

"(1) publish all guidance documents and other relevant documents, as determined by the agency, including any updated guidance documents that set forth interpretations of the rule; and

"(2) allow for comments on the documents described in paragraph (1) to ensure that small entities may access and provide feedback on those documents.".

SEC. 4. REVIEW PROCEDURES FOR SECTION 610 PERIODIC REVIEW OF RULES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 610 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "the following factors";

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking "and" at the end;

(C) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

"(6) any indirect costs described in the initial regulatory flexibility analysis under section 603(b)(6), and any other indirect costs that may have arisen during the 10-year period described in subsection (a)."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(d) If an agency fails to conduct a review of a rule as required under this section within the 10-year period described in subsection (a)—

"(1) the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration shall notify the agency that the rule has ceased to be effective;

"(2) the agency shall publish in the Federal Register a notification that the rule has ceased to be effective, and solicit comments for why the rule should be reinstated; and

"(3) if, based on the comments received under paragraph (2), the agency determines that the rule should be reinstated—

"(A) the agency shall have 180 days beginning on the date of that determination to complete the review of the rule under this section; and

"(B) upon completion of the review under subparagraph (A), the rule shall be reinstated, notwithstanding the notice and comment rulemaking procedures under section 553 of this title.".

(b) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by subsection (a)(2) shall apply with respect to any final rule issued by an agency—

(1) during the 5-year period preceding the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this Act or the amendments made by this Act.

◇

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

TO H.R. 2027

OFFERED BY M[redacted]. [redacted]

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Returning SBA to Main Street Act of 2025''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATION; ADMINISTRATOR.—The terms ''Administration'' and ''Administrator'' mean the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof, respectively.

(2) BUDGET JUSTIFICATION MATERIALS.—The term ''budget justification materials'' has the meaning given that term in section 3(b)(2)(A) of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note).

(3) EMPLOYEE.—The term ''employee'' has the meaning given that term in section 2105 of title 5, United States Code.

(4) HEADQUARTERS EMPLOYEE OF THE ADMINISTRATION.—The term ''headquarters employee of the Administration'' means—

(A) an employee of the Administration whose permanent duty station is at the headquarters of the Administration; or

(B) an employee of the Administration—

(i) who teleworks on a full-time basis; and

(ii) whose rate of pay is calculated based on the Washington metropolitan area rate of pay.

(5) HEADQUARTERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION.—The term ''headquarters of the Administration'' means the building serving as the principal managerial and administrative center of the Administration in accordance with section 4(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 633(a)).

(6) PAY LOCALITY.—The term ''pay locality'' has the meaning given that term in section 5302 of title 5, United States Code.

(7) RURAL.—The term ''rural'' means any area that is not designated as an urban area, based on the most recent data available from the Bureau of the Census.

(8) TELEWORK.—The term ''telework'' has the meaning given that term in section 6501 of title 5, United States Code.

(9) TELEWORK ON A FULL-TIME BASIS.—The term ''telework on a full-time basis'' means that an employee is authorized to telework for 100 percent of the work days of the employee per pay period.

(10) WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA.—The term ''Washington metropolitan area'' means the geographic area to which the Washington metropolitan area rate of pay applies.

(11) WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA RATE OF PAY.—The term ''Washington metropolitan area rate of pay'' means the rate of pay in effect for the pay locality designated as ''Washington-Baltimore-Arlington, DC-MD-VA-WV-PA''.

SEC. 3. RELOCATION OF EMPLOYEE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, and not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, if the Administrator determines that implementing the requirements under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection will reduce the cost to the Federal Government (which determination the Administrator shall explain in detail in the report required under subsection (d) of this section) the Administrator shall—

(1) change the permanent duty station of not less than 30 percent of the headquarters employees of the Administration as of the date of enactment of this Act, to be at an office of the Administration at a location outside the Washington metropolitan area, which shall be at locations throughout the regions of the Administration; and

(2) for each employee of the Administration whose permanent duty station is changed under paragraph (1), ensure that—

(A) the rate of pay of the employee is calculated based on the pay locality for the permanent duty station of the employee; and

(B) the employee is not authorized to telework on a full-time basis.

(b) DETERMINATION OF NEW DUTY STATIONS.—In determining the permanent duty stations of headquarters employees of the Administration under subsection (a)(1), the Administrator shall—

(1) promote geographic diversity, including consideration of rural markets; and

(2) ensure adequate staffing throughout the regions of the Administration, to promote in-person customer service.

(c) DETERMINATION OF EMPLOYEES ELIGIBLE FOR A CHANGE IN DUTY STATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Administrator shall include each headquarters employee of the Administration as eligible for a change in permanent duty station under subsection (a).

(2) EXCEPTION.—A headquarters employee of the Administration who is a qualified individual who receives an accommodation to telework on a full-time basis as a reasonable accommodation under title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12111 et seq.)—

(A) shall not be determined to be eligible for a change in permanent duty station under subsection (a); and

(B) shall be counted as a headquarters employee of the Administration for purposes of complying with subsection (a)(1).

(3) NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—Not later than the day before the date on which the Administrator submits the report required under subsection (d), the Administrator shall notify each headquarters employee of the Administration who the Administrator determines is eligible for a

change in permanent duty station under subsection (a) of that determination.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report that provides—

(1) the number of headquarters employees of the Administration, as of the date of enactment of this Act;

(2) the number of headquarters employees of the Administration identified as eligible for a change in permanent duty station, in accordance with subsection (c);

(3) the number of headquarters employees of the Administration whose permanent duty station will be changed to be at an office of the Administration at a location outside the Washington metropolitan area under subsection (a);

(4) the number of headquarters employees of the Administration subject to an exception under subsection (c)(2); and

(5) the plan of the Administrator to implement subsection (a).

(e) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not earlier than 60 days and not later than 90 days after the date on which the Administrator submits the report required under subsection (d), the Administrator shall notify each headquarters employee of the Administration whose permanent duty station will be changed to be at an office of the Administration located outside the Washington metropolitan area under subsection (a)—

(A) that, effective 90 days after the date of the notification—

(i) the permanent duty station of the employee shall be changed;

(ii) the rate of pay of the employee shall be calculated based on the pay locality for such permanent duty station; and

(iii) the employee shall not be authorized to telework on a full-time basis; and

(B) of the location of such permanent duty station.

(2) FULL-TIME TELEWORKERS REMAINING IN THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For any employee described in subparagraph (B), effective on the date that is 180 days after the date on which

the Administrator submits the report required under subsection (d), the employee shall not be authorized to telework on a full-time basis.

(B) EMPLOYEES COVERED.—An employee described in this subparagraph is a headquarters employee of the Administration—

(i) who teleworks on a full-time basis, as of the date of enactment of this Act;

(ii) who is not subject to an exception under subsection (c)(2); and

(iii) whose permanent duty station is not changed to be an office of the Administration at a location outside the Washington metropolitan area under subsection (a).

(3) NO RELOCATION INCENTIVES.—If, pursuant to this Act, the official worksite (as defined in section 531.602 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation) of an employee changes from the residence of the employee to the headquarters of the Administration, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the employee shall not be paid any relocation incentive.

SEC. 4. REDUCTION IN HEADQUARTERS OFFICE SPACE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall reduce the amount of office space for the headquarters of the Administration by not less than 30 percent.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Administrator shall—

(1) begin reducing office space under subsection (a) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) complete the reduction of office space required under subsection (a) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. INFORMATION INCLUDED IN BUDGET JUSTIFICATION MATERIALS PROVIDED TO CONGRESS.

The Administrator shall include in the first budget justification materials of the Administration submitted after the date of enactment of this Act, and the budget justification materials of the Administration for each fiscal year thereafter—

(1) the number of headquarters employees of the Administration;

(2) the number of employees of the Administration assigned to a permanent duty station in—

(A) a field office of the Administration;

(B) a district office of the Administration; or

(C) a regional office of the Administration;

(3) the number of employees of the Administration who telework on a full-time basis; and

(4) the number of employees of the Administration who are a qualified individual who receives an accommodation to telework on a full-time basis as a reasonable accommodation under title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12111 et seq.).

SEC. 6. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act and the application of the provision to any other person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 7. SUPERSESSION.

This Act shall supersede any other provision of law and any provision of a collective bargaining agreement or master labor agreement.

SEC. 8. NO PRIVATE CAUSE OF ACTION.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to establish a private cause of action, equitable or otherwise, to challenge any selection, change, or decision made, or action taken, under this Act.

◇

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

TO H.R. ▮▮▮

OFFERED BY M▮. ▮▮▮▮▮▮

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Capping Excessive Awarding of SBLC Entrants Act of 2025" or the "CEASE Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF SMALL BUSINESS LENDING COMPANIES.

Section 23 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 650) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(k) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF SMALL BUSINESS LENDING COMPANIES.—The Administrator shall ensure that not more than 16 small business lending companies that are not nonprofit entities are authorized to make loans under section 7 at any time.".

◇

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

TO H.R. 2931

OFFERED BY M[redacted]. [redacted]

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Save SBA from Sanctuary Cities Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. RELOCATION OF CERTAIN OFFICES IN SANCTUARY JURISDICTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall relocate each covered office located in a sanctuary jurisdiction in accordance with this section.

(b) DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—Subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a covered office only if, prior to ordering the relocation of such covered office under such subsection, the Administrator makes a determination that such covered office is located in a sanctuary jurisdiction and makes such determination publicly available.

(c) RELOCATION REQUIREMENT.—When relocating a covered office under this section, the Administrator shall relocate such covered office to a location that—

(1) is not in a sanctuary jurisdiction; and

(2) if the State in which such covered office is located prior to such relocation is not a sanctuary jurisdiction, is in such State.

(d) RELOCATION DEADLINE.—

(1) DEADLINE.—Not later 120 days after the Administrator makes publicly available a determination under subsection (b) with respect to a covered office, the Administrator shall relocate such covered office in accordance with subsection (c).

(2) NONCOMPLIANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If a covered office described in paragraph (1) is not relocated in accordance with subsection (c) prior to the expiration of the 120-day period applicable to such relocation under such paragraph—

(i) not later 5 days after the expiration of such 120-day period, the head of such covered office shall submit to the Administrator a written explanation of why such covered office was not relocated prior to expiration of such 120-day period; and

(ii) during the period beginning on the day after expiration of such 120-day period and ending on the date on which such cov-

ered office is relocated to a location that is not in a sanctuary jurisdiction—

(I) such covered office shall cease operations; and

(II) each employee of the Administration whose duty station was at such covered office shall be assigned to a duty station at another covered office that is located in the same State and not in a sanctuary jurisdiction or, if no other covered office is located in the same State and not in a sanctuary jurisdiction, any other covered office that is not located in a sanctuary jurisdiction.

(B) REMOVAL.—The Administrator shall immediately remove the head of a covered office required to submit a written explanation under subparagraph (A)(i) if—

(i) such head does not submit such a written explanation in accordance with such subparagraph; or

(ii) the Administrator determines that the reasons provided in the written explanation submitted by such head under such

subparagraph for the relocation of such covered office not being completed prior to the expiration of the 120-day period described in paragraph (1) with respect to such covered office are insufficient.

(e) NEW OFFICE LIMITATION.—The Administrator may not establish a covered office in sanctuary jurisdiction.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term ''Administration'' means the Small Business Administration.

(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Administration.

(3) COVERED OFFICE.—The term ''covered office'' means a regional, district, or local office the Administration, other than the headquarters of the Administration, or any other component of the Administration fully funded by funds appropriated by Congress.

(4) SANCTUARY JURISDICTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by subparagraph (B), the term ''sanctuary jurisdiction'' means any State or political subdivision of a State that has in effect a statute, ordi-

nance, policy, or practice that prohibits or restricts any government entity or official from—

(i) sending, receiving, maintaining, or exchanging with any Federal, State, or local government entity information regarding the citizenship or immigration status (lawful or unlawful) of any individual; or

(ii) complying with a request lawfully made by the Department of Homeland Security under section 236 or 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226 and 1357) to comply with a detainer for, or notify about the release of, an individual.

(B) EXCEPTION.—A State or political subdivision of a State shall not be deemed a sanctuary jurisdiction based solely on its having a policy whereby its officials will not share information regarding, or comply with a request made by the Department of Homeland Security under section 236 or 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226 and 1357) to comply with a detainer regarding, an indi-

6

vidual who comes forward as a victim or a witness to a criminal offense.

◇

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

TO H.R. 2968

OFFERED BY M[redacted]. [redacted]

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Business Over Ballots Act".

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Small Business Administration should focus on aiding and assisting small business concerns;

(2) facilitating access to voter registration is beyond the scope of the mission of the Administration and the authority of the Administration under Federal law; and

(3) any executive order issued by the President may not conflict with this Act or otherwise compel the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to facilitate access to voter registration.

SEC. 3. LIMITATIONS ON FACILITATION OF ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION BY THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

(a) PROHIBITION.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration may not take any action to facilitate access to voter registration other than actions authorized by Federal law.

(b) TERMS OF CONTRACTS.—On or after the date of the enactment of this Act, any contract or other agreement entered into by the Administrator to provide assistance to a person shall include a term stating that such person may not use such assistance to facilitate access to voter registration.

(c) EXISTING RECIPIENTS.—A recipient of assistance from the Administrator may not use such assistance to facilitate access to voter registration unless explicitly authorized by the terms of such assistance.

(d) COVERED ENTITIES.—The Administrator may not use, act through, or otherwise make a request of a covered entity to engage in activities to facilitate access to voter registration unless the Administrator is so authorized by Congress.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(2) COVERED ENTITY.—The term ''covered entity''—

(A) means an entity, State government, or unit of local government that receives funding or other assistance from the Administrator under a contract, cooperative agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other agreement to carry out a program administered by the Administrator; and

(B) does not include a person that receives a loan or loan guarantee under section 7 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636).

◇

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2965 OFFERED BY M[redacted]. [redacted]

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION RULEMAKING COSTS TO SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(2) RULE; RULEMAKING.—The terms "rule" and "rulemaking" have the meanings given those terms in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) SMALL BUSINESS.—The term "small business" has the same meaning as the term "small business concern" under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632), unless an agency, after consultation with the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration and after oppor-

tunity for public comment, establishes one or more definitions of such term which are appropriate to the activities of the agency and publishes such definition(s) in the Federal Register.

(4) SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY BUDGET.—The term "small business regulatory budget" means the cost to a small business of a rulemaking conducted by a Federal agency, including the cost resulting from the issuance of any new rule and the cost resulting from the modification or repeal of an existing rule.

(b) REQUIREMENT.—In fiscal year 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Administrator shall ensure that the small business regulatory budget for the Small Business Administration for the applicable fiscal year is not greater than zero.

(c) ADVOCACY REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the end of fiscal year 2025, and annually thereafter, the Chief Counsel for the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration shall submit to Congress a report regarding rules issued by Federal agencies other than the Administration during the preceding fiscal year that have an impact on small businesses, which shall—

(1) include the total small business regulatory budgets for the preceding fiscal year for each Federal agency;

(2) include each such rule issued during the preceding fiscal year; and

(3) be disaggregated by the Federal agency that issued each such rule.

SEC. 3. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act.

◇

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. III OFFERED BY M[redacted]. IIIIII

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "American Entrepreneurs First Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS FOR CITIZENSHIP STATUS DOCUMENTATION FOR CERTAIN LOAN PROGRAMS OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall ensure that any application for a loan submitted under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) or title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.) includes the following information:

(1) The date of birth for each individual applicant for such loan or for each individual owner of an applicant concern.

(2) Certification that—

(A) an individual applicant for such loan is a citizen of the United States, a national of the

United States, or a lawful permanent resident of the United States; or

(B) an applicant concern for such loan or a guarantor for such loan is 100 percent beneficially owned by individuals who are either citizens of the United States, nationals of the United States, or lawful permanent residents of the United States.

(3) Certification that no direct or indirect owner of an applicant concern for such loan is an ineligible person.

(4) Documentation of the alien registration number of any lawful permanent resident who is—

(A) an individual applicant for such loan; or

(B) an owner of an applicant concern.

(b) PROHIBITION.—An applicant for a loan under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) or title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.) is ineligible for such loan if—

(1) the applicant submits the application for such loan after the date of the enactment of this Act and such application does not contain the information required under subsection (a);

(2) in the case such applicant is an applicant concern, any direct or indirect owner of such applicant concern is an ineligible person; or

(3) in the case such applicant is an individual applicant, such applicant is an ineligible person.

(c) INELIGIBLE PERSON DEFINED.—In this Act, the term "ineligible person" means—

(1) an asylee;

(2) a refugee;

(3) an individual issued a visa to remain in the United States;

(4) an alien classified as a nonimmigrant under any subparagraph of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15));

(5) an alien to whom deferred action has been granted pursuant to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy announced by the Secretary of Homeland Security on June 15, 2012; or

(6) an alien present in the United States without lawful status under the immigration laws (as such term is defined in section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a))).

◇

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		
	TOTALS		

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: ANS to H.R. 2968

Result?	Agreed To: [X]		
	Not Agreed To: [ ]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
X			

FC Vote #	1

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		
	TOTALS		

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: ANS to H.R. 2027

Result?	Agreed To: [X]		
	Not Agreed To: [ ]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
X			

FC Vote #	2

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		
	TOTALS		

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: ANS to H.R. 2931

Result?	Agreed To: [X]		
	Not Agreed To: [ ]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
X			

FC Vote #	4

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		
	TOTALS		

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: ANS to H.R. 2987

Result?	Agreed To: [X] Not Agreed To: [ ] Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
X			

FC Vote #	5

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		
	TOTALS		

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: ANS to H.R. 2965

Result?	Agreed To: [X]		
	Not Agreed To: [ ]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
X			

FC Vote #	6

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		
	TOTALS		

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: ANS to H.R. 1163

Result?	Agreed To: [X] Not Agreed To: [ ] Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
X			

FC Vote #	7

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2968 OFFERED BY Conaway MR.

Page 1, line 3, insert "and Student Loans" before "Act".

Page 1, line 12, strike "and".

Page 1, line 16, strike "voter registration." and insert "voter registration; and".

Page 1, after line 16, insert the following:

(4) the administration, management, or servicing of any loan made, insured, or guaranteed under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.) is beyond the mission of the Administration and the authority of the Administration under Federal law; and

(5) any Executive order issued by the President may not conflict with this Act or otherwise compel the Administration to administer, manage, or service any such loan.

Page 2, line 1, insert "**AND MANAGING AND OVERSEEING STUDENT LOANS**" before "**BY THE**".

2

Page 2, line 6, after ''voter registration'' insert ''or administer, manage, or service any loan made, insured, or guaranteed under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.)''.

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2968 OFFERED BY Velázquez

Add at the end the following new section:

SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

The Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report on the rationale, legal authority, and organizational structure within the Administration to administer, manage, or service any loan made, insured, or guaranteed under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.). Such report shall include copies of any internal and external communications including emails, memoranda, meeting notes, electronic chat communications, texts, and any other correspondence, sent or received on or after January 20, 2025, by any employee of the Department of Education, Department of Treasury, the Executive Office of the President, or any other Federal employee regarding the potential involvement of the Administration in administering, managing, or servicing such loans.

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2027 OFFERED BY Conaway

Page 1, strike line 1 and all that follows and insert the following:

SEC. 1. COMPTROLLER GENERAL ANALYSIS OF REORGANIZATION PLAN FOR THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

With respect to any plan of the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to change the permanent duty station of any headquarters employees of the Administration to be at an office of the Administration at a location outside the Washington metropolitan area. the Administrator shall submit such plan to the Comptroller General of the United States for analysis. Not later than 1 year after the date of receipt of such plan, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report that includes the following:

(1) The cost of terminating or modifying any lease for the headquarters of the Administration.

(2) The relocation costs for any headquarters employees of the Administration under the plan.

(3) The effect such plan would have on any collective bargaining agreements in effect at the time of implementation of the plan.

(4) The effect of the changes to the permanent duty station of headquarters employees of the Administration included in the plan on the Small Business Administration, including the performance of program of the Administration and provision of services to small business concerns by the Administration.

(5) A description of any challenges faced by headquarters employees of the Administration to be relocated pursuant to the plan.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) EMPLOYEE.—The term ''employee'' has the meaning given that term in section 2105 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) HEADQUARTERS EMPLOYEE OF THE ADMINISTRATION.—The term ''headquarters employee of the Administration'' means—

(A) an employee of the Administration whose permanent duty station is at the headquarters of the Administration; or

(B) an employee of the Administration—

(i) who teleworks on a full-time basis; and

(ii) whose rate of pay is calculated based on the Washington metropolitan area rate of pay.

(3) HEADQUARTERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION.—The term "headquarters of the Administration" means the building serving as the principal managerial and administrative center of the Administration, in accordance with section 4(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 633(a)).

(4) WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA.—The term "Washington metropolitan area" means the geographic area to which the rate of pay in effect for the pay locality designated as "Washington-Baltimore-Arlington, DC-MD-VA-WV-PA" (as determined under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code) applies.

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2027 OFFERED BY Mr. [redacted]

Add at the end the following new section:

SEC. 9. TESTIMONY REQUIRED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall testify before the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives regarding the plan for carrying out the requirements of this Act.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act and the requirements of this Act shall take effect on the date on which the Administrator provides the testimony required under subsection (a).

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2027 OFFERED BY Mr. Morrison

Add at the end of section 3 the following new subsection:

(f) EXEMPTION FOR VETERANS.—This section and the requirements of this section shall not apply to an employee who is a veteran (as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code).

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2027 OFFERED BY Mr. IIIIII

Add at the end the following new section:

SEC. 9. PROHIBITION ON IMPLEMENTATION.

The Administrator may not take any action to implement this Act or the requirements of this Act until the Administrator publishes a determination that cost of carrying out the requirements of this Act for a fiscal year is not more than zero.

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2931 OFFERED BY Cisneros

Add at the end the following new section:

SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON IMPLEMENTATION.

The Administrator may not take any action to implement this Act or the requirements of this Act until the Administrator publishes a determination that cost of carrying out the requirements of this Act for a fiscal year is not more than zero.

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2931 OFFERED BY Velázquez

Add at the end the following new section:

SEC. 3. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon making a determination under section 2(b), the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report on the proposed relocations of covered offices that includes the following:

(1) The number of small business concerns located in the sanctuary jurisdiction served by the covered office compared to the number of such concerns located in area to which the covered office will be relocated.

(2) A detailed summary of the data-driven criteria used to inform the decision to relocate covered offices located in metropolitan areas.

(3) An explanation of how a relocation under this Act will better serve small business concerns.

(4) A detailed list of the district offices of the Administration that may be impacted by this Act.

(5) A detailed explanation of the plans to maintain the provision of services of the Administration during and after relocations made under this Act, particularly in metropolitan areas that are major economic centers.

(6) A detailed summary of the timeline for the proposed relocations.

(7) A detailed list, including names and titles of the employees for each covered office to be relocated.

(8) A summary of established clear, outcome-oriented goals and performance measures for the proposed relocations.

(9) An explanation of the extent to which such goals align with the mission of the Administration to—

(A) aid, counsel, assist, and protect the interests of small business concerns;

(B) preserve free competitive enterprises; and

(C) maintain and strengthen the overall economy of the nation.

(10) An identification of the individuals responsible for carrying out a proposed relocation under this Act and the resources required for such relocation, including a detailed summary of the experience

of such individuals and the ability of such individuals to manage the relocation process.

(11) A description of the outreach and engagement the Administrator conducted for small business concerns located in sanctuary jurisdictions, and the input of such concerns on the proposed relocation.

(12) A detailed and comprehensive estimate of the cost of the proposed relocations and an explanation of the funding for costs associated with such relocations.

(b) PROHIBITION.—The Administrator may not relocate a covered office until the Administrator submits the report required by subsection (a).

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2965 OFFERED BY Olszewski

In section 2(b), by inserting ", except with respect to rules relating to workforce development and rules that benefit rural small business concerns" after "zero".

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2965

OFFERED BY Morrison

In section 2(b), by inserting ", except with respect to rules that benefit small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans (as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632))" after "zero".

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 1163

OFFERED BY Goodlander

Page 4, line 2, after "petitioner" insert the following: ", and, for each small entity represented by the petitioner, the name of the small entity and a telephone number, mailing address, and email address".

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 1163 OFFERED BY McCarvey

Page 1, line 10, strike ''where'' and insert ''except with respect to a proposed rule that the head of such agency has determined will have a substantial beneficial effect on veterans' programs, where''.

Page 2, line 7, strike ''605(b)'' and all that follows through line 22 and insert: ''605(b), by adding at the end the following: 'Except with respect to a proposed rule that the head of such agency has determined will have a substantial beneficial effect on veterans' programs, the agency shall provide such certification and statement to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration not later than 10 days after completing the certification described in this paragraph.'; and''.

Page 2, line 16, strike ''Any'' and insert ''Except with respect to a proposed rule that the head of the agency proposing such rule has determined will have a substantial beneficial effect on veterans' programs, any''.

Page 11, line 17, strike ''any indirect'' and insert ''except with respect to a rule that the head of such agen-

cy has determined to have a substantial beneficial effect on veterans' programs, and indirect''.

Page 11, line 23, insert ", other than a rule that the head of the agency has determined to have a substantial beneficial effect on veterans' programs,'' after "a rule''.

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 1163 OFFERED BY Velazquez

Page 1, strike line 1 and all that follows and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Prove It Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. CHANGES TO PERIODIC REVIEW OF RULES.

Section 610 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the fifth sentence, by inserting "that includes an explanation for the delay" after "in a statement"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(d) Not later than February 1 of every other year, beginning in 2026, each agency shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report that includes the following:

"(1) A description of the number of reviews conducted under this section in the preceding 2 years.

"(2) The number of comments for each such review.

"(3) The process and standard that the agency used for each such review.

"(4) The outcome of each such review.

"(5) Each factor that assisted or impeded the head of an agency in conducting each such review.

"(6) For each rule that should have been reviewed since the last reporting deadline but was not, the number of times the head of an agency has determined that the review was not feasible and the number of years by which completion of such review has been extended.

"(7) Legislative recommendations to improve the ability of such agency to carry out this section.".

SEC. 3. TRAINING ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS OF THE REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ACT.

Section 612 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking "**and intervention rights**" and inserting "**, intervention rights, and training**"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) Not less frequently than once every 4 years, the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration shall provide training on compliance with the requirements of this chapter for any agency employee who writes, reviews, approves, or analyzes regulations or guidance documents.".

◇

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 1163 OFFERED BY Olszewski

Page 1, line 10, strike "where" and insert "except with respect to a proposed rule that the head of such agency has determined will have a substantial beneficial effect on workforce development programs and rural small business concerns, where".

Page 2, line 7, strike "605(b)" and all that follows through line 22 and insert: "605(b), by adding at the end the following: 'Except with respect to a proposed rule that the head of such agency has determined will have a substantial beneficial effect on workforce development programs and rural small business concerns, the agency shall provide such certification and statement to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration not later than 10 days after completing the certification described in this paragraph.'; and".

Page 2, line 16, strike "Any" and insert "Except with respect to a proposed rule that the head of the agency proposing such rule has determined will have a sub-

stantial beneficial effect on workforce development programs and rural small business concerns, any''.

Page 11, line 17, strike ''any indirect'' and insert ''except with respect to a rule that the head of such agency has determined to have a substantial beneficial effect on workforce development programs and rural small business concerns, and indirect''.

Page 11, line 23, insert '', other than a rule that the head of the agency has determined to have a substantial beneficial effect on workforce development programs and rural small business concerns,'' after ''a rule''.

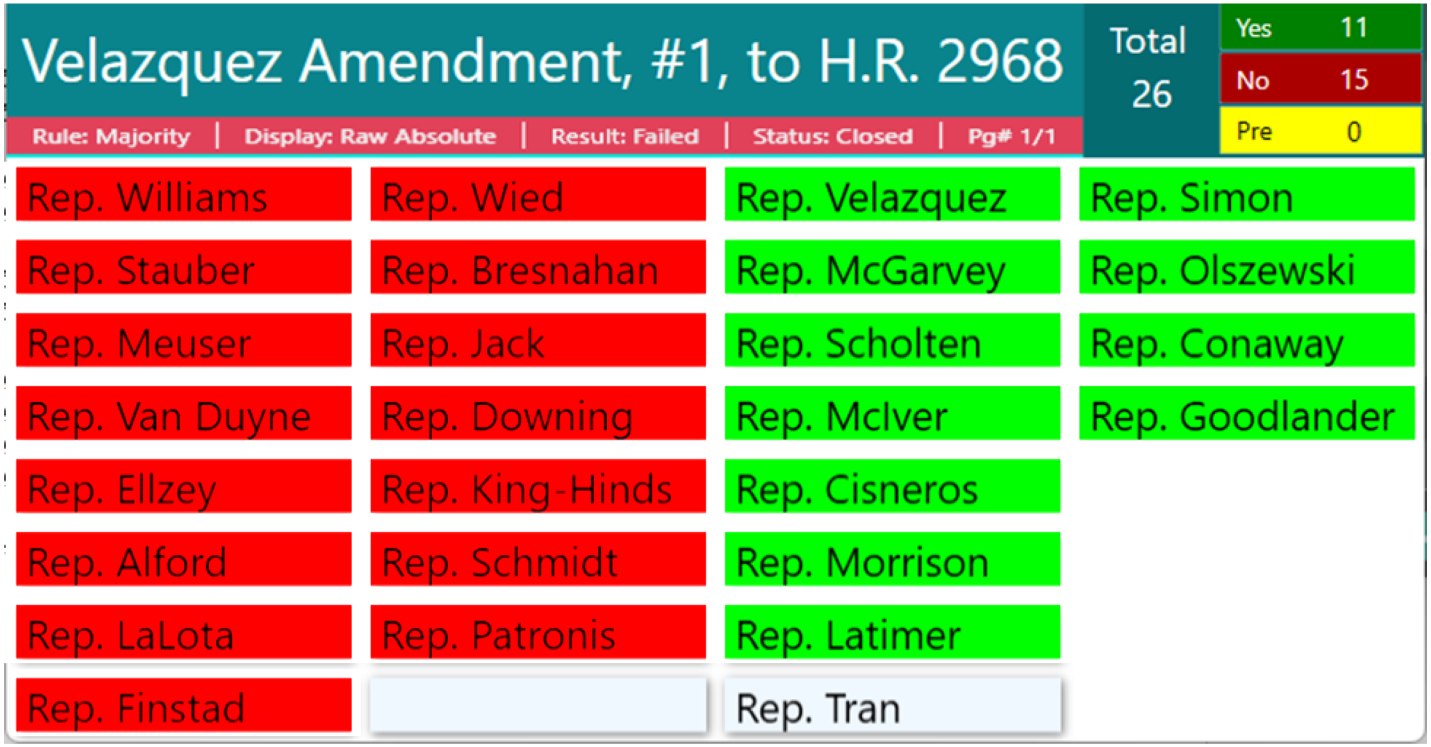
◇

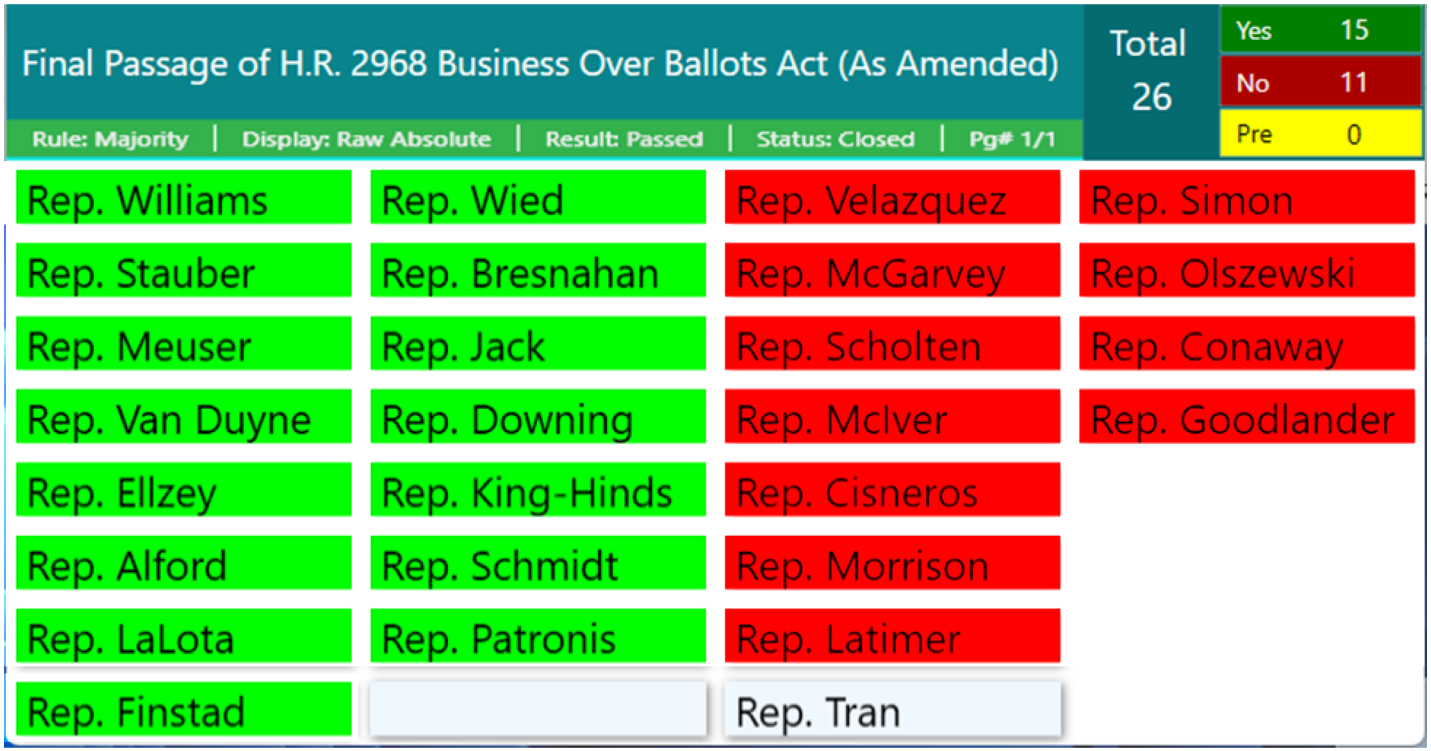
Conaway Amendment, #1, to H.R. 2968

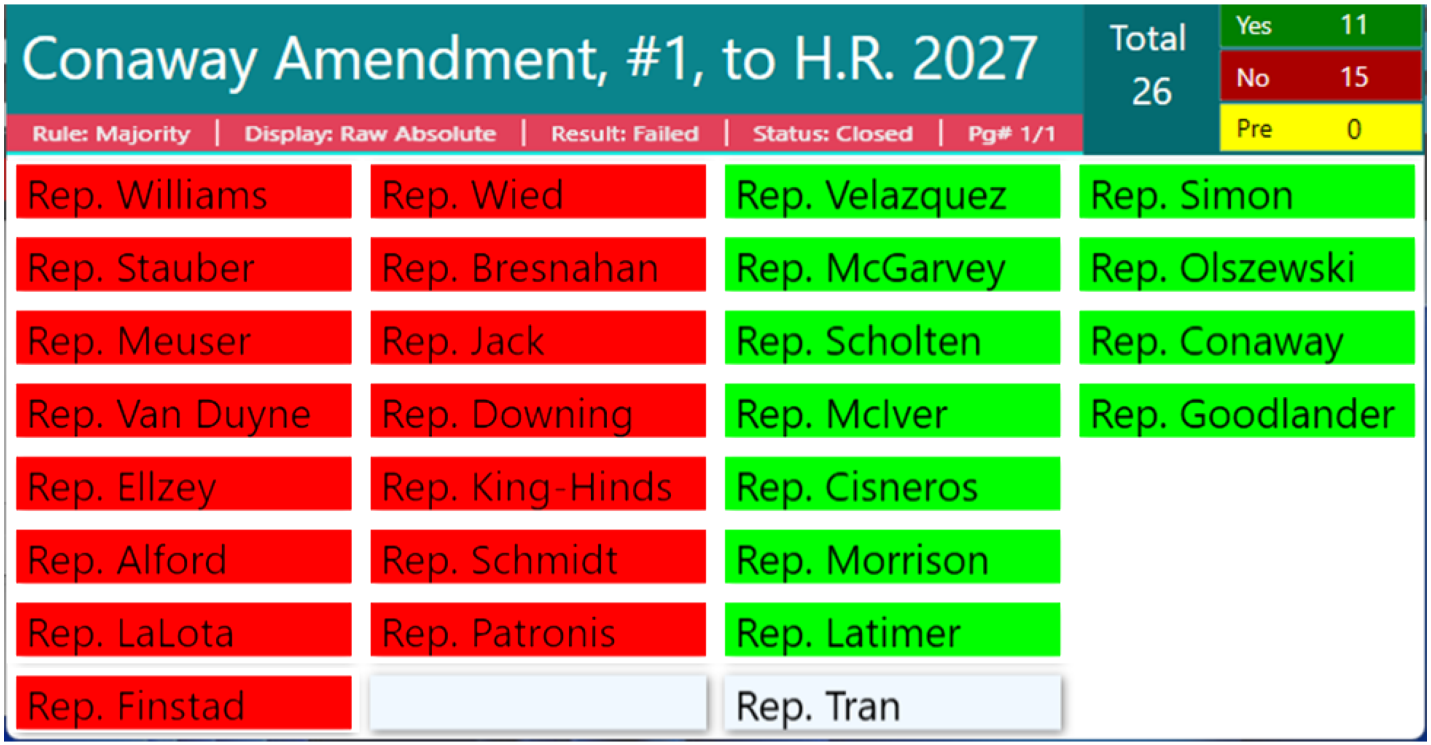
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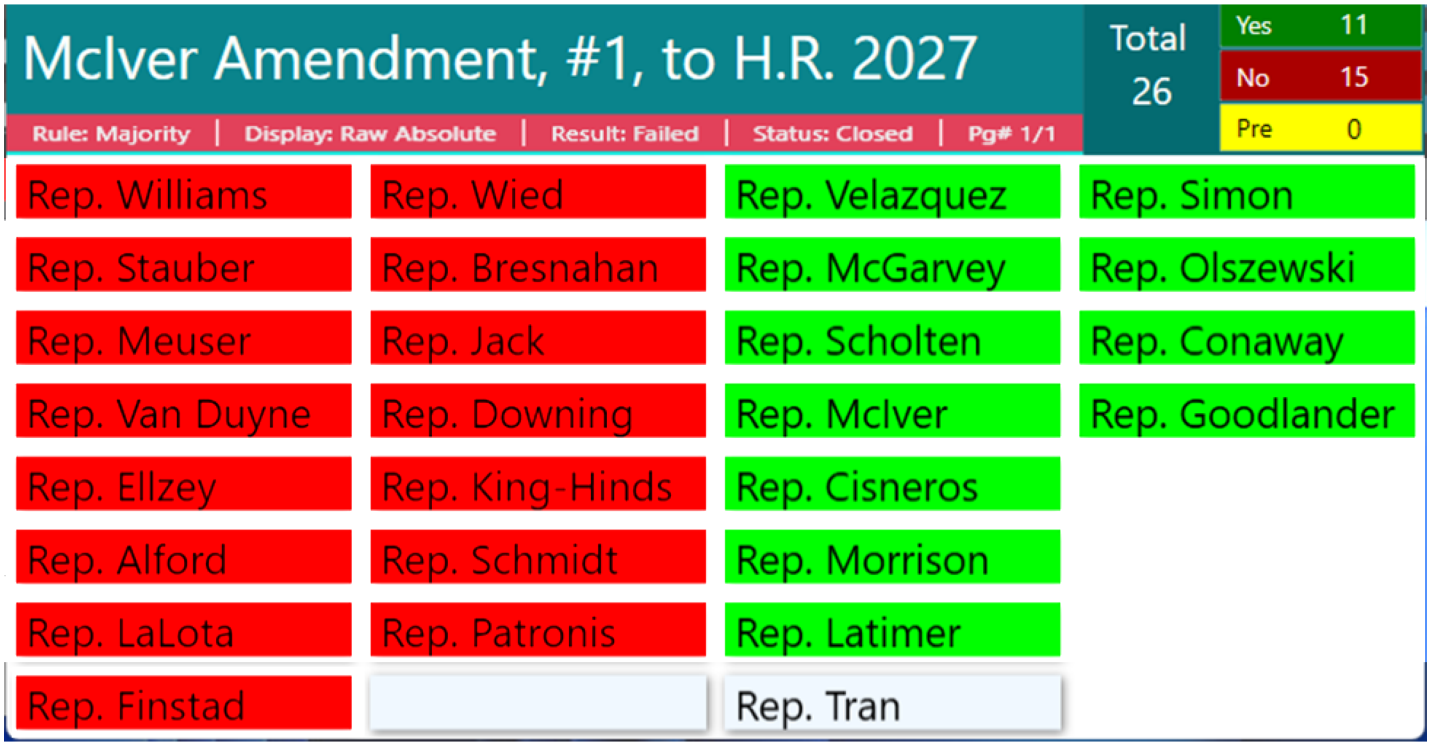
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Yes	11
No	15
Pre	0

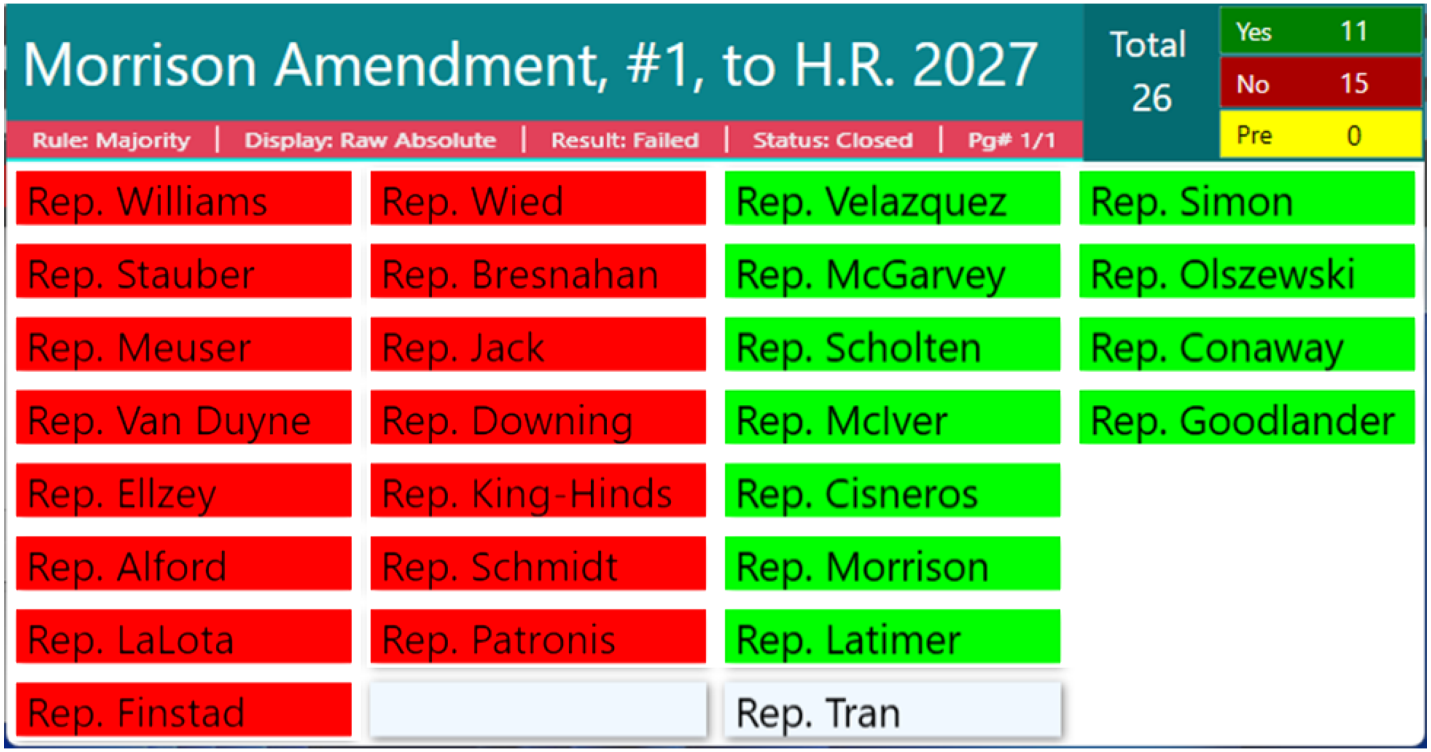
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Rep. Stauber	Rep. Bresnahan	Rep. McGarvey	Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser	Rep. Jack	Rep. Scholten	Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne	Rep. Downing	Rep. McIver	Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey	Rep. King-Hinds	Rep. Cisneros	
Rep. Alford	Rep. Schmidt	Rep. Morrison	
Rep. LaLota	Rep. Patronis	Rep. Latimer	
Rep. Finstad		Rep. Tran	

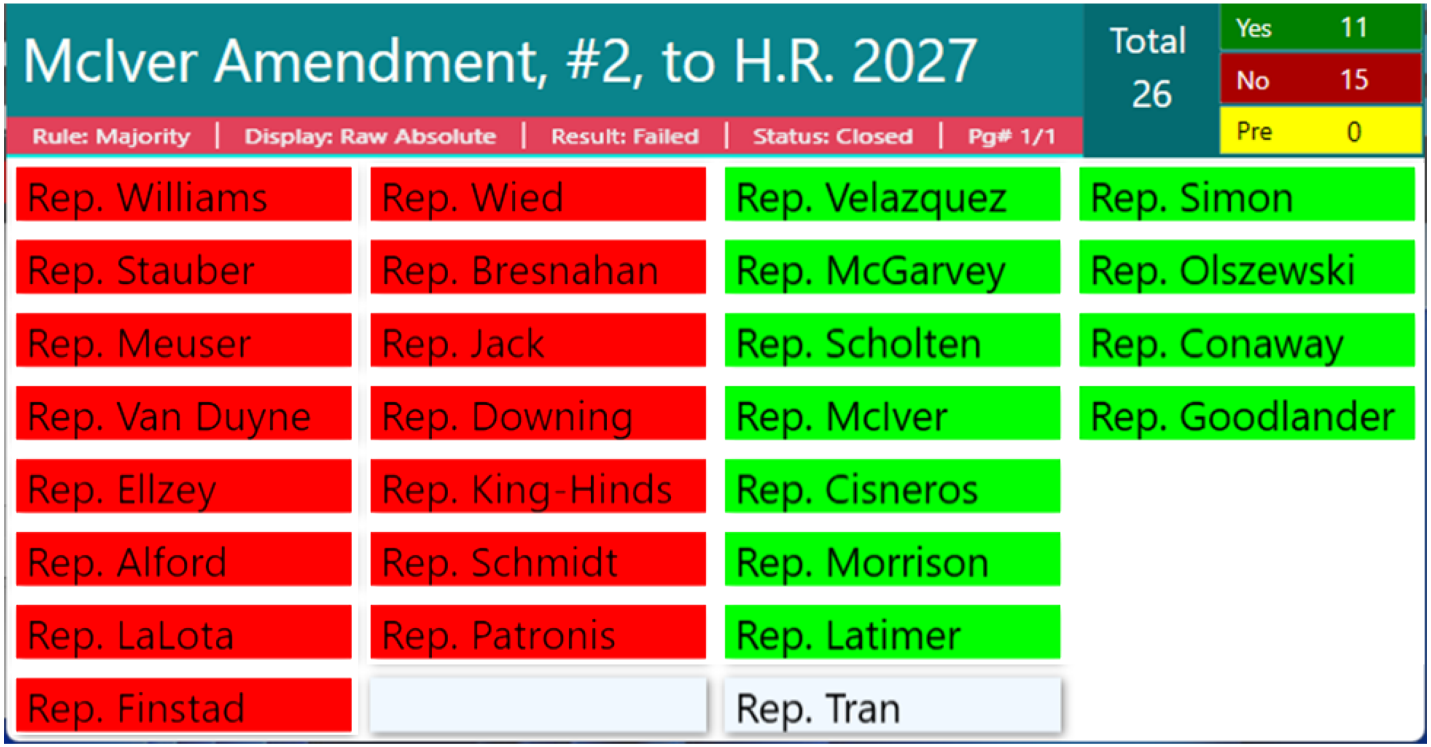

Velazquez Amendment, #1, to H.R. 2968
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
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Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran

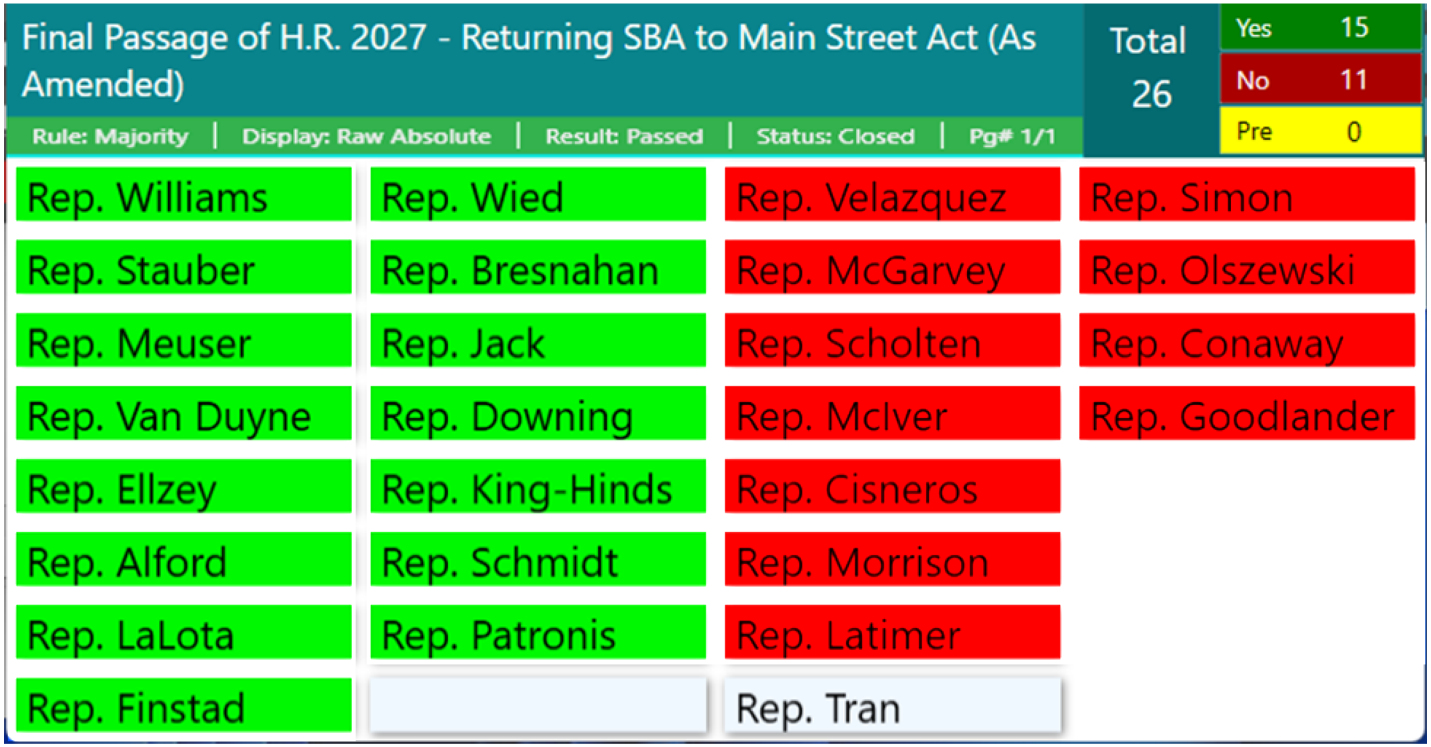

Final Passage of H.R. 2968 Business Over Ballots Act (As Amended)
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Passed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 15
No 11
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
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Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran

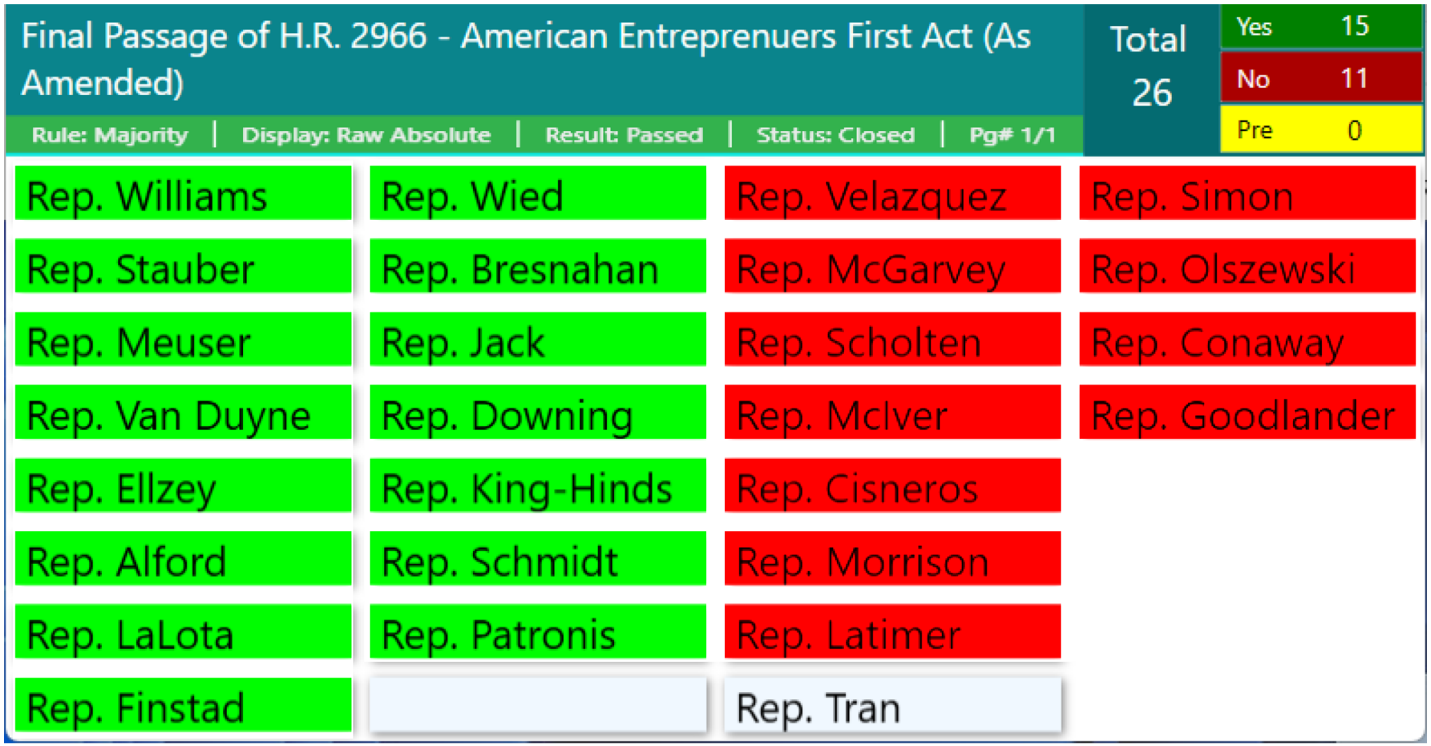

Conaway Amendment, #1, to H.R. 2027
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
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Rep. Schmidt
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Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran

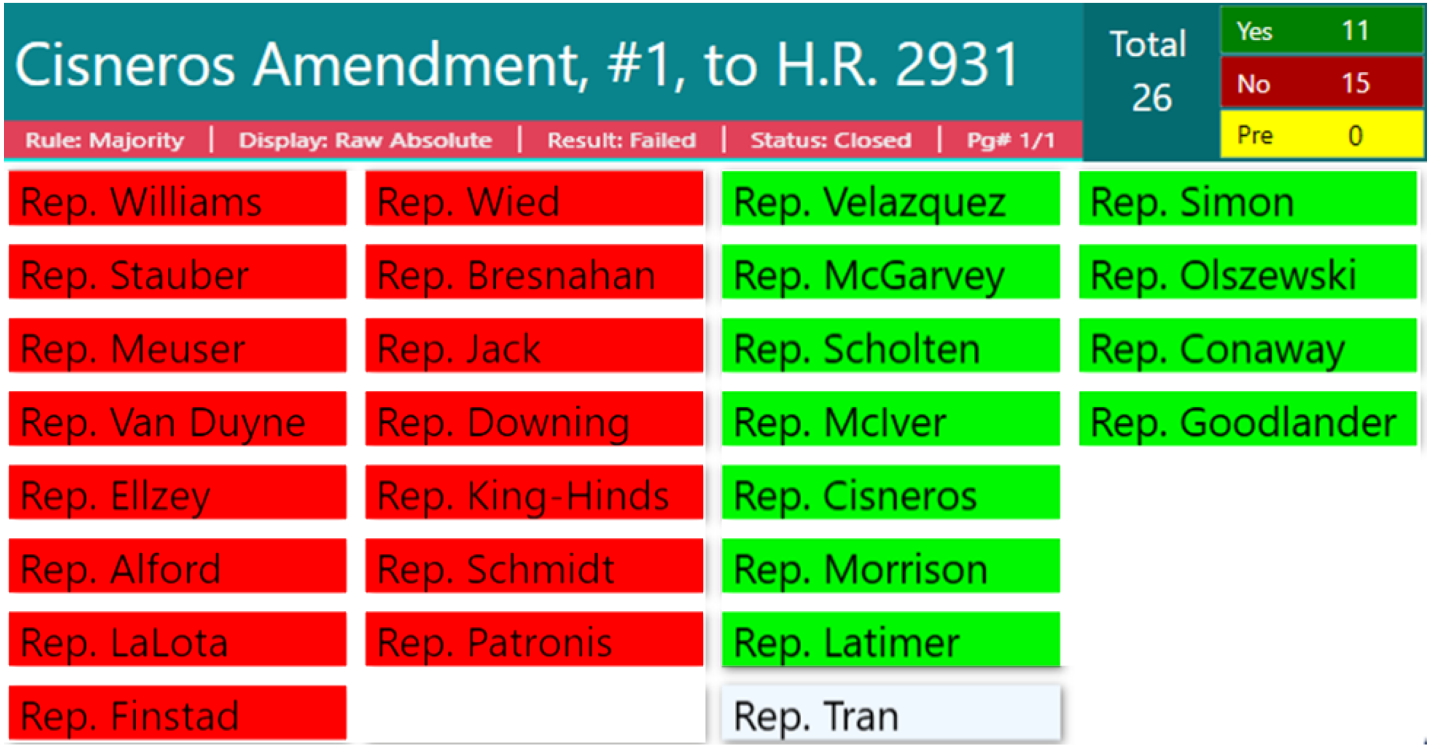

McIver Amendment, #1, to H.R. 2027
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran


Morrison Amendment, #1, to H.R. 2027
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran


McIver Amendment, #2, to H.R. 2027
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran


Final Passage of H.R. 2027 - Returning SBA to Main Street Act (As Amended)
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Passed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 15
No 11
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran


Final Passage of H.R. 2966 - American Entreprenuers First Act (As Amended)
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Passed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 15
No 11
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran

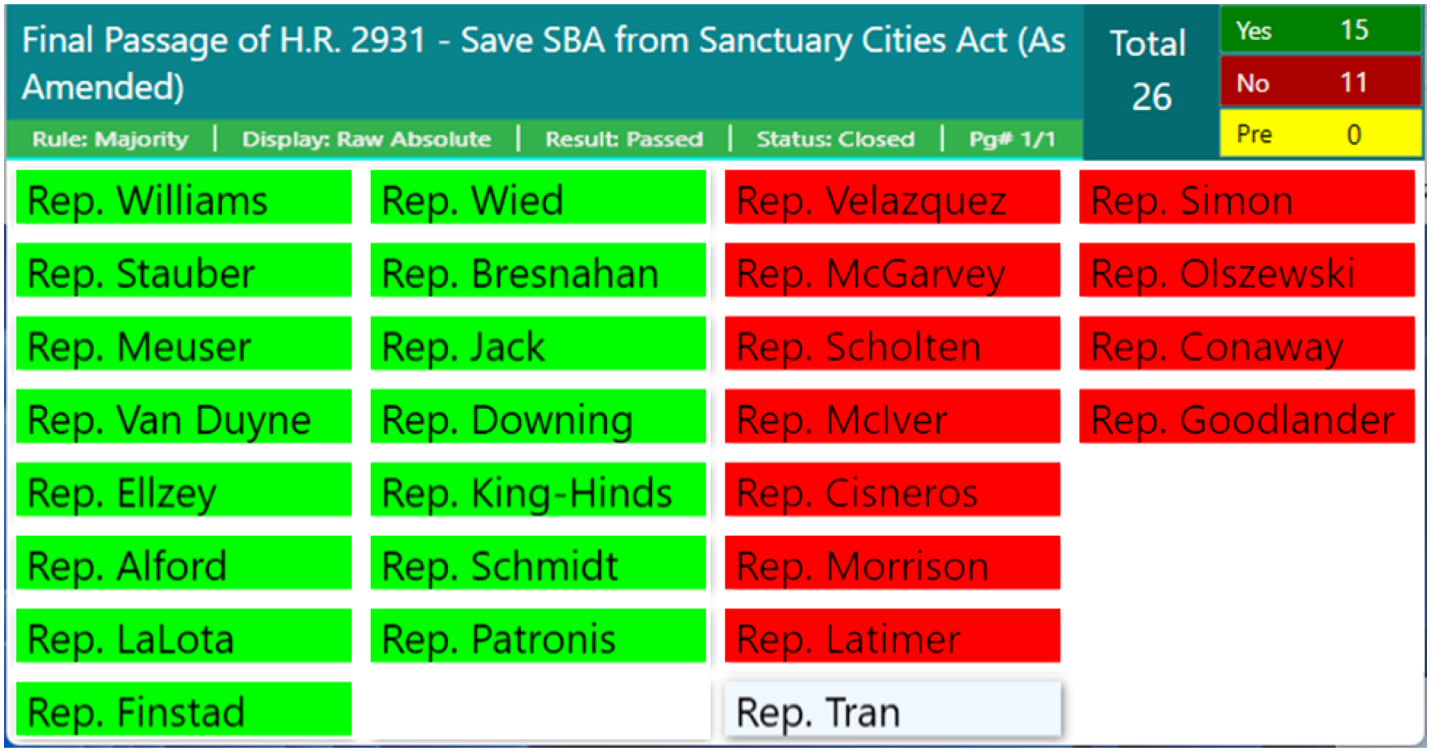

Cisneros Amendment, #1, to H.R. 2931
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran

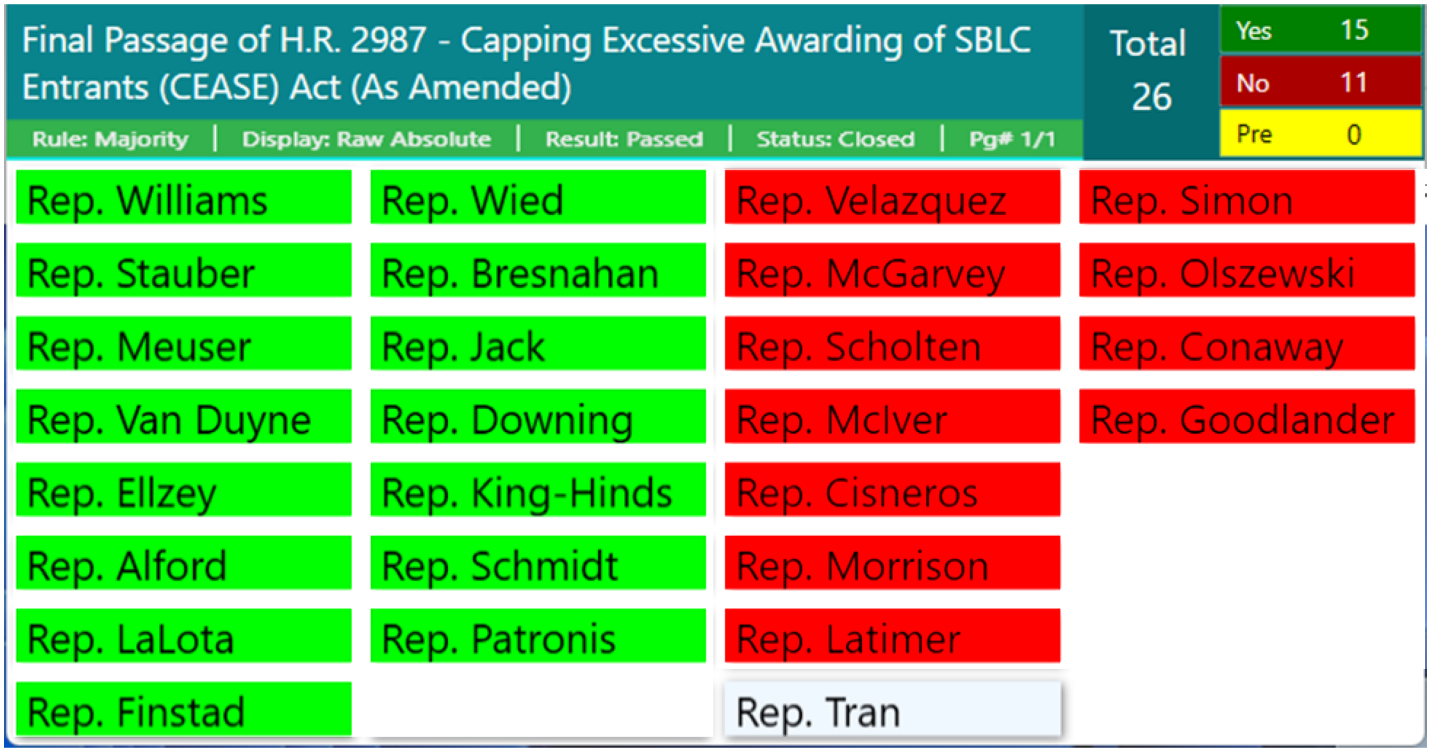
Velazquez Amendment, #1, to H.R. 2931

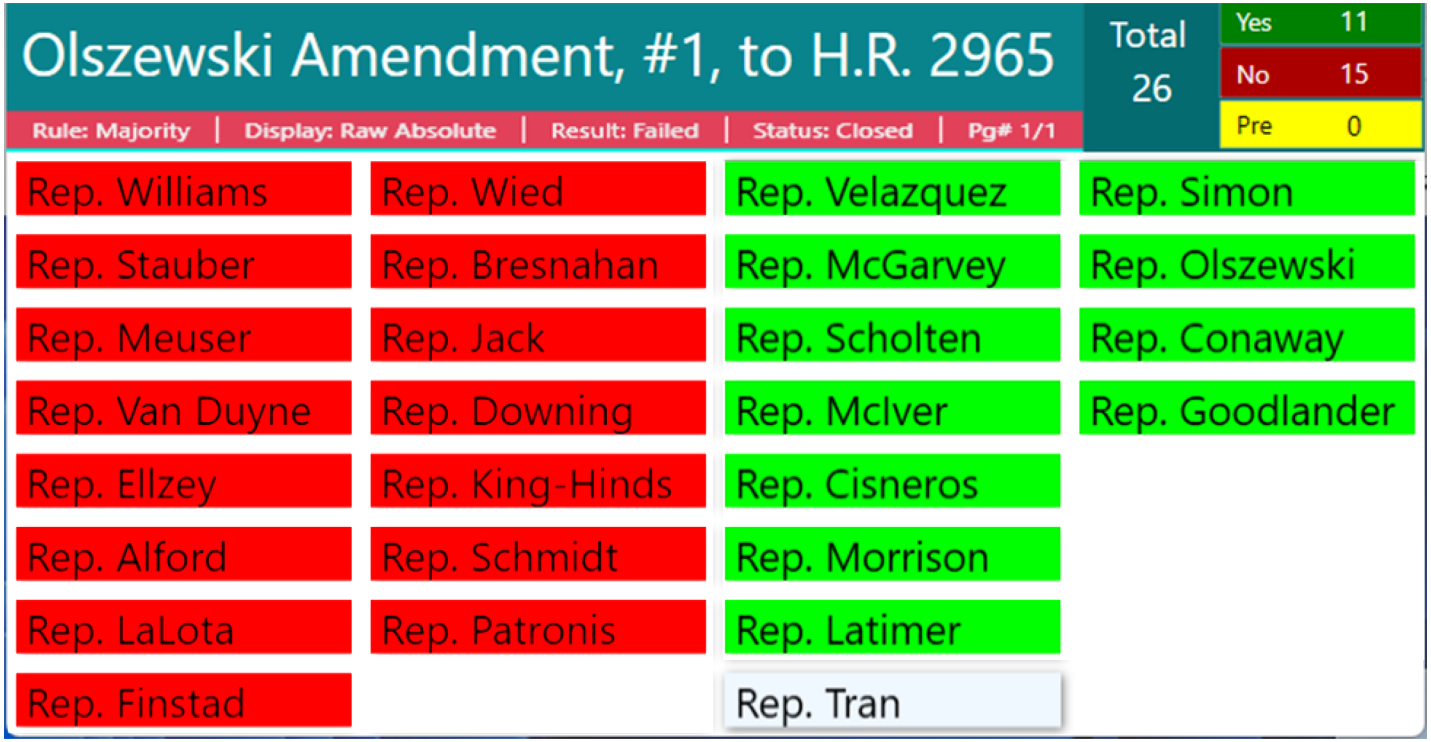
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1

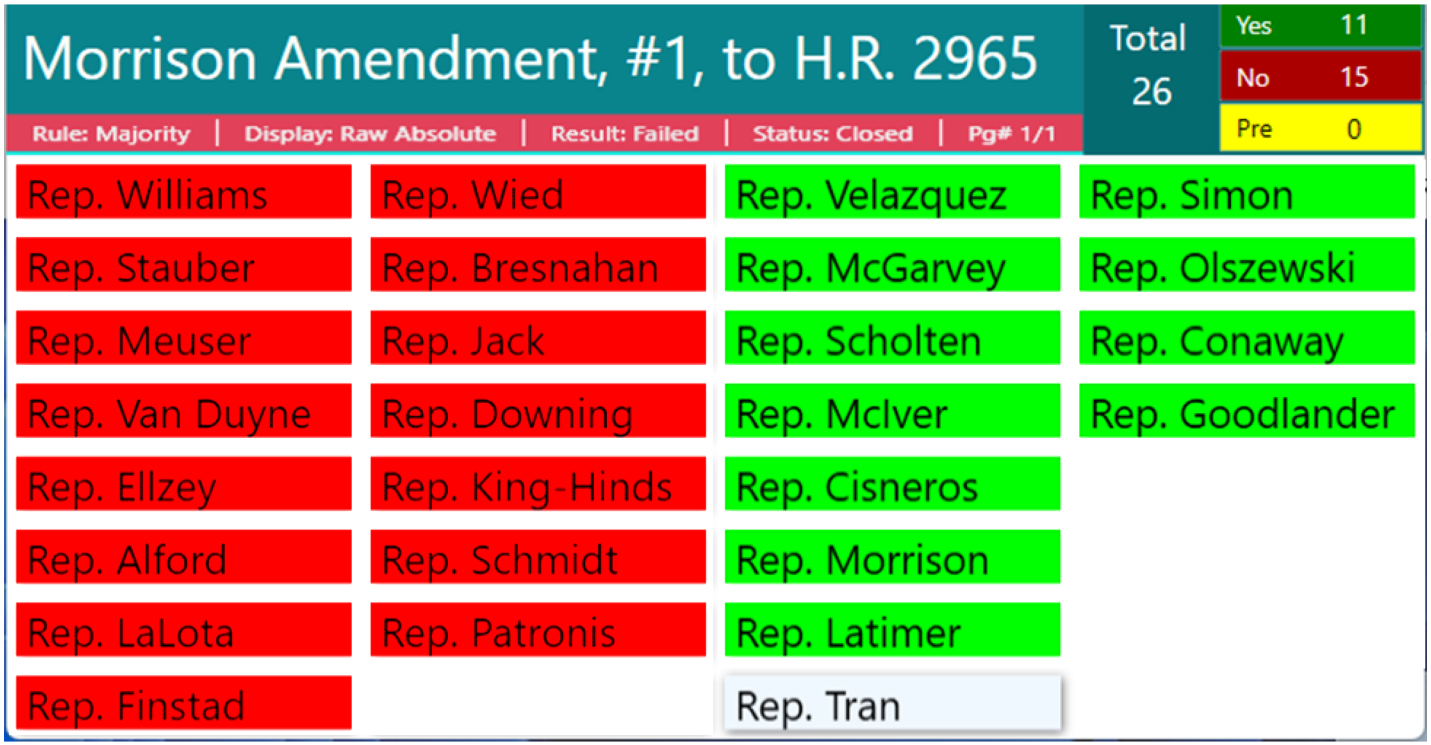
Total 26	
Yes	11
No	15
Pre	0

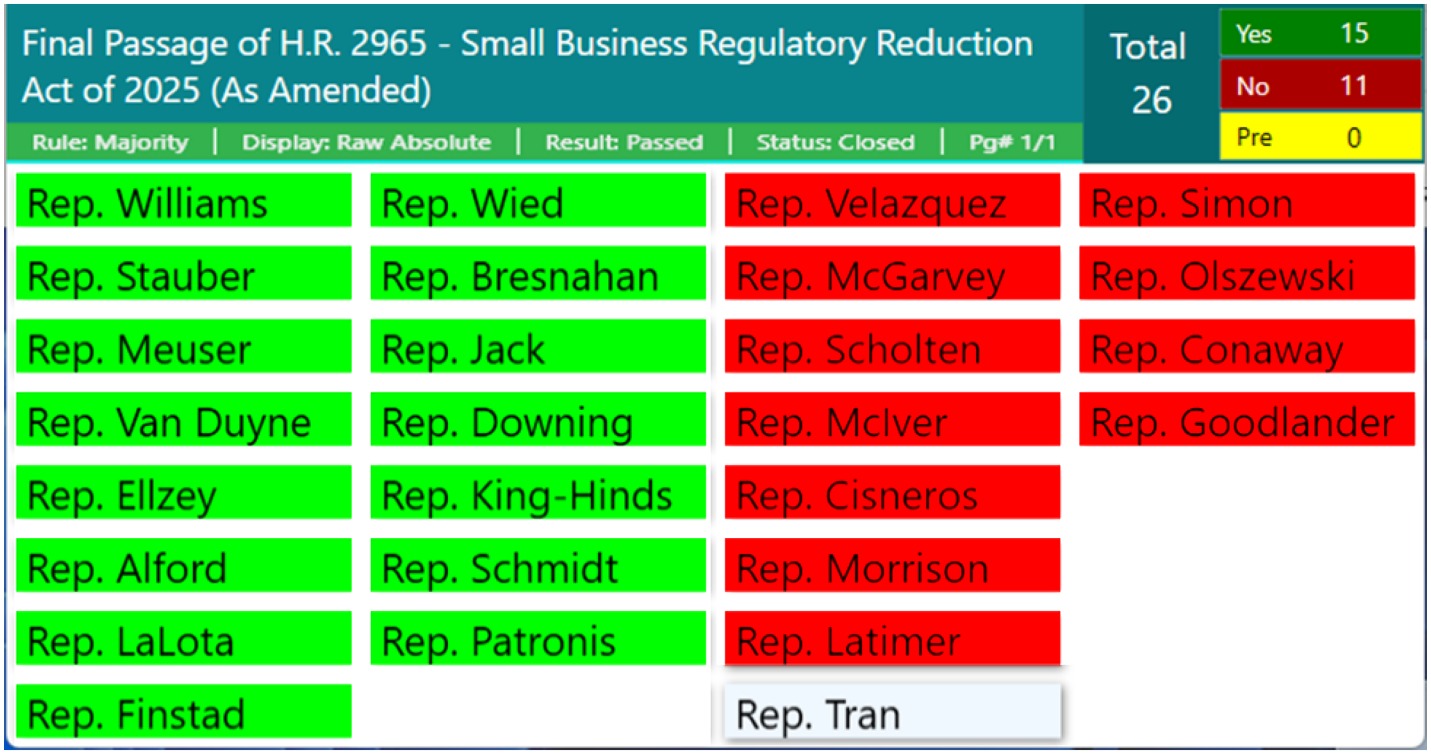
Rep. Williams	Rep. Wied	Rep. Velazquez	Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber	Rep. Bresnahan	Rep. McGarvey	Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser	Rep. Jack	Rep. Scholten	Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne	Rep. Downing	Rep. McIver	Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey	Rep. King-Hinds	Rep. Cisneros	
Rep. Alford	Rep. Schmidt	Rep. Morrison	
Rep. LaLota	Rep. Patronis	Rep. Latimer	
Rep. Finstad		Rep. Tran	


Final Passage of H.R. 2931 - Save SBA from Sanctuary Cities Act (As Amended)
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Passed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 15
No 11
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran

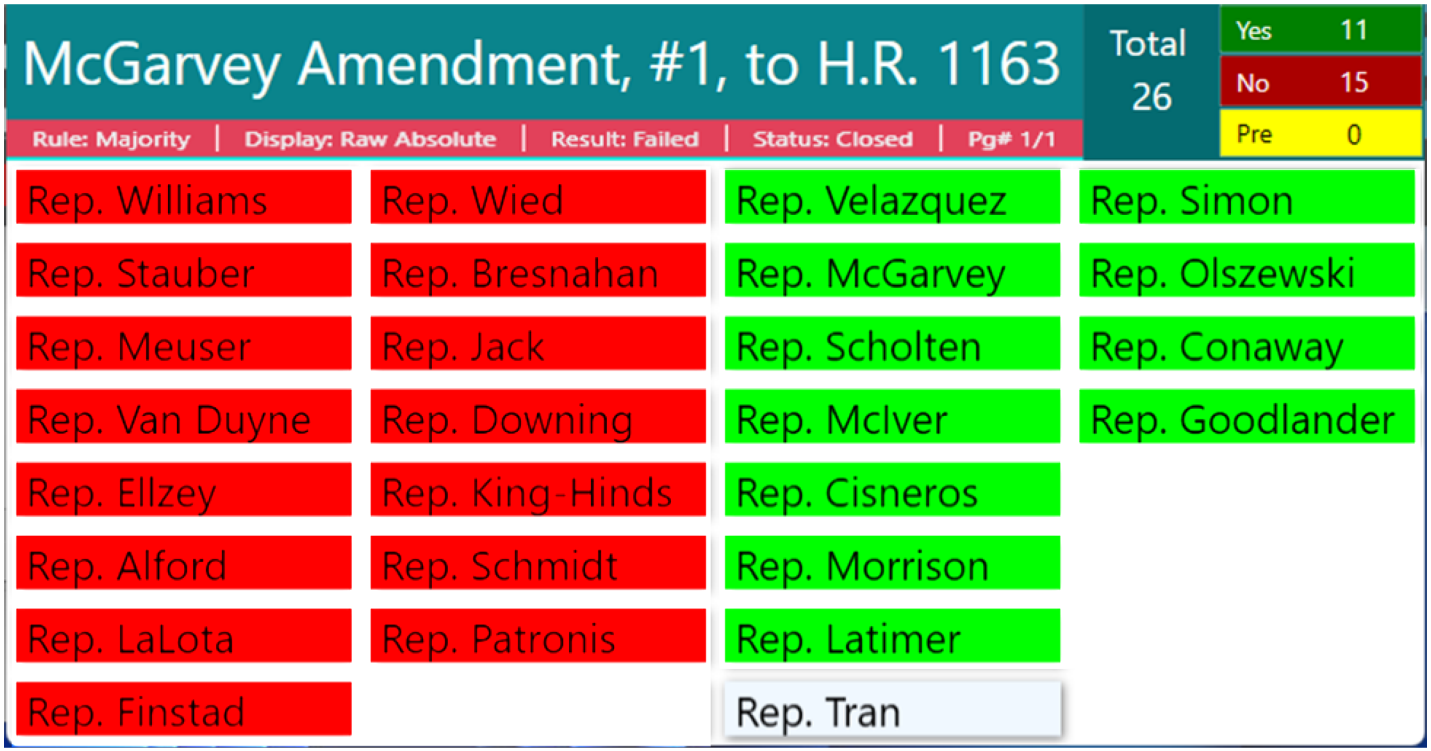

Final Passage of H.R. 2987 - Capping Excessive Awarding of SBLC Entrants (CEASE) Act (As Amended)
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Passed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 15
No 11
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran

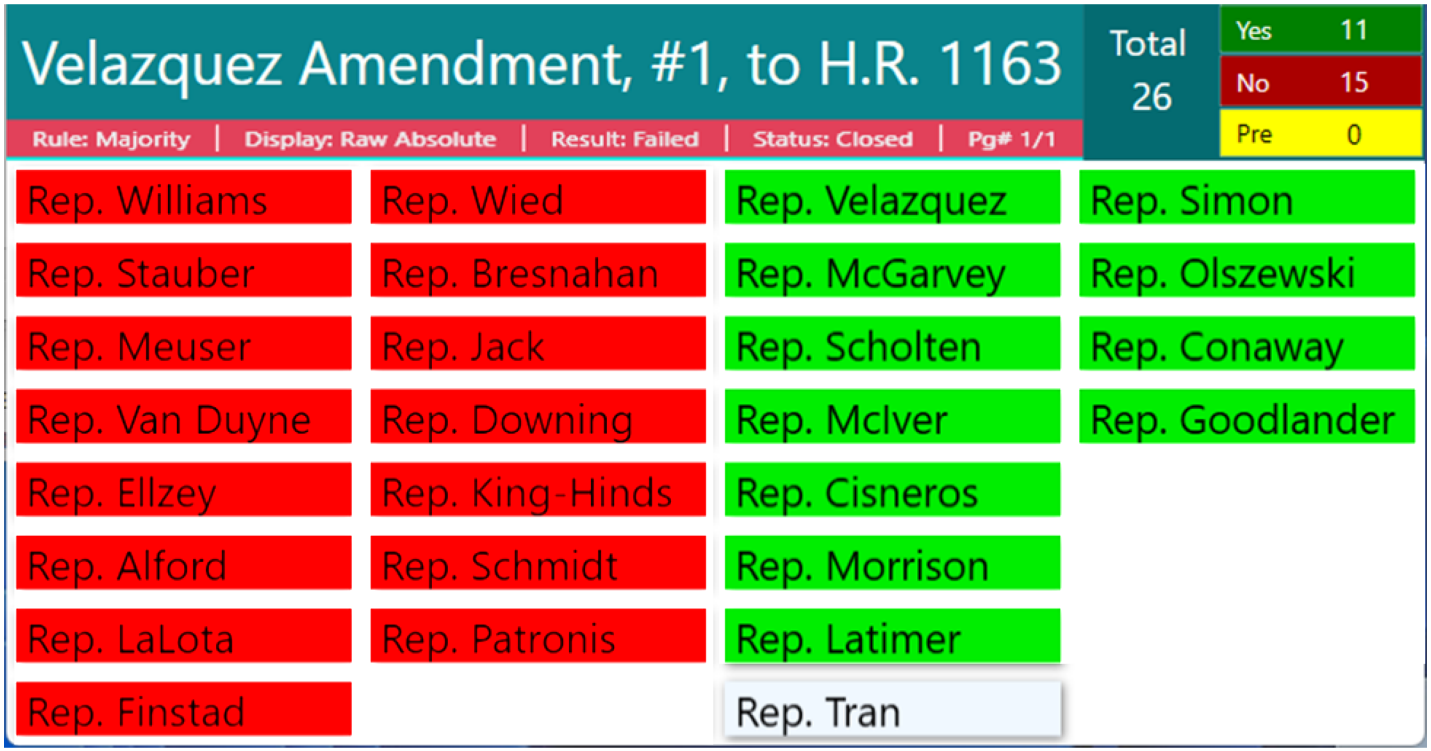

Olszewski Amendment, #1, to H.R. 2965
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran

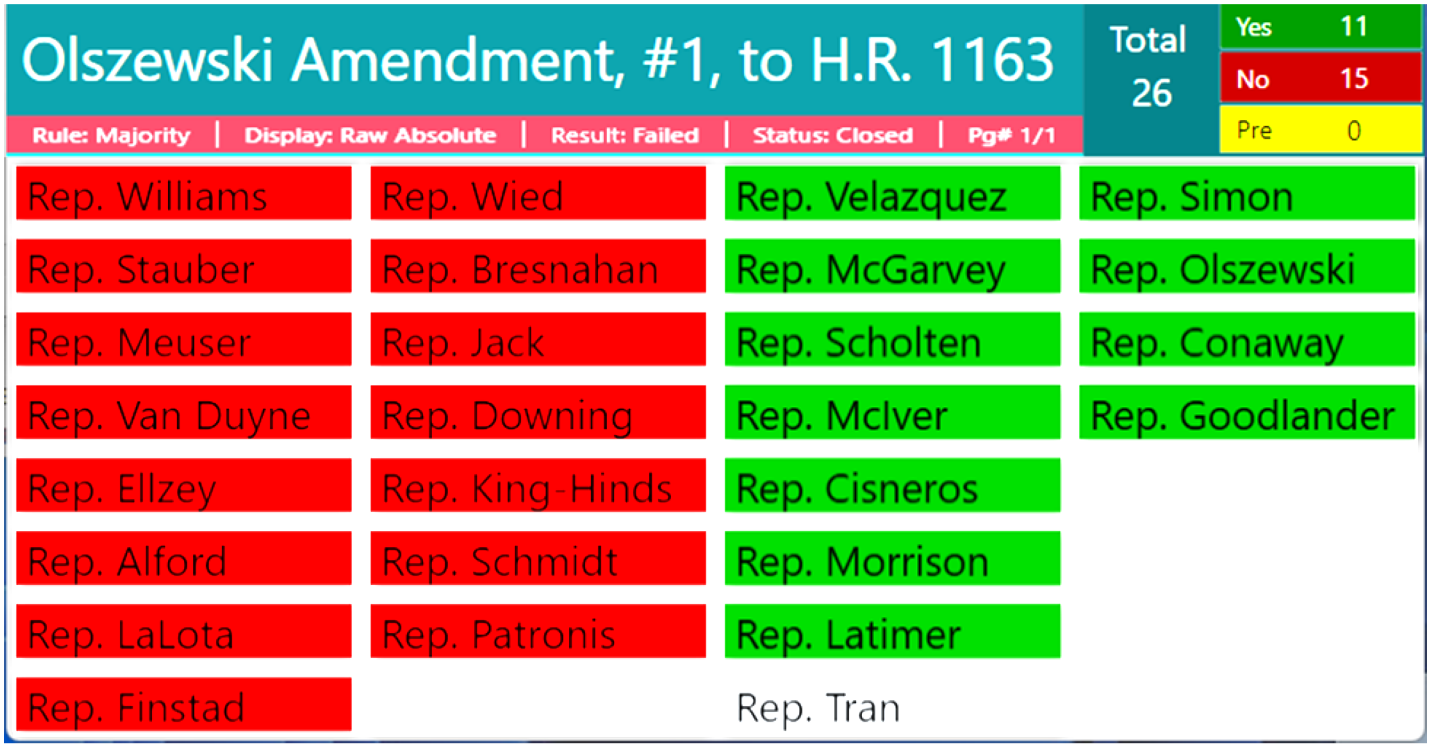

Morrison Amendment, #1, to H.R. 2965
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran

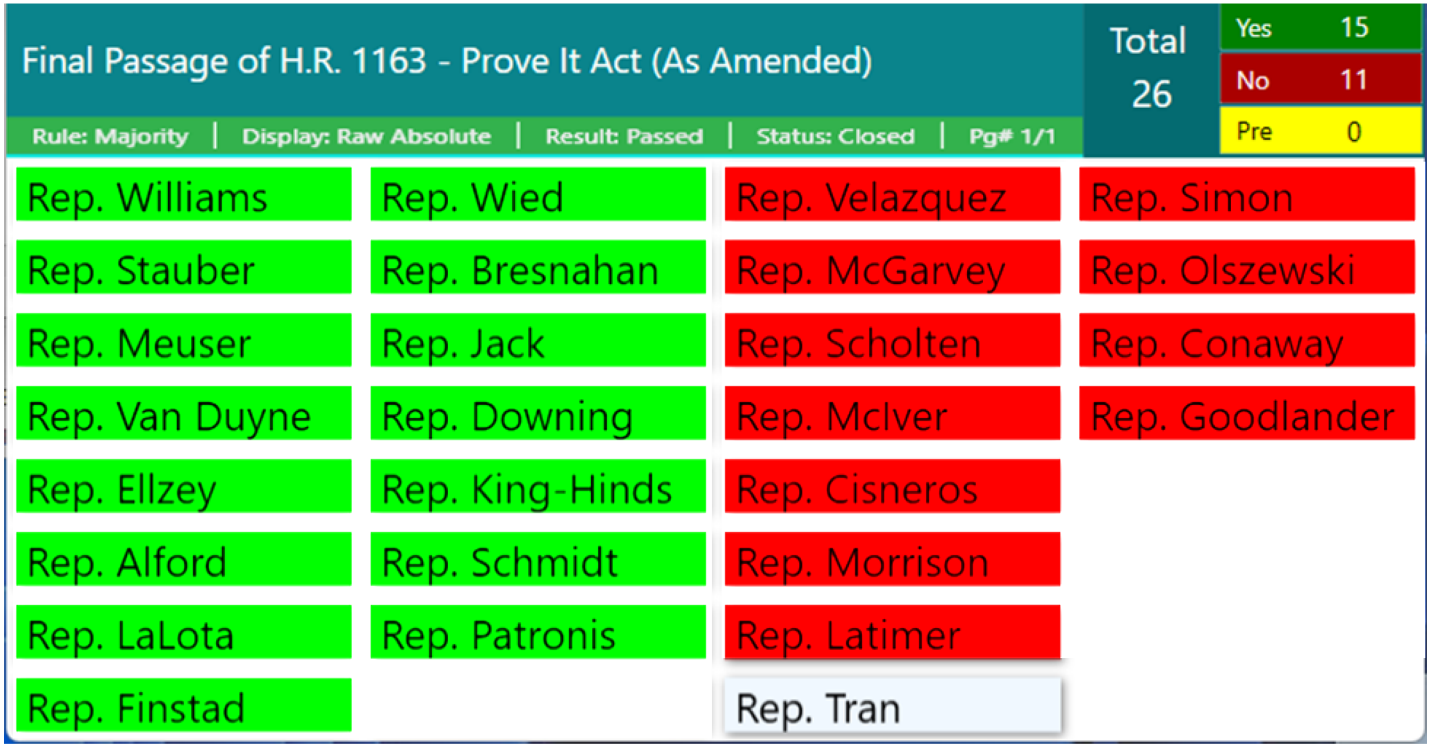

Final Passage of H.R. 2965 - Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act of 2025 (As Amended)
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Passed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 15
No 11
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran


Goodlander Amendment, #1, to H....
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: In Progress | Status: Open | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran


McGarvey Amendment, #1, to H.R. 1163
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran


Velazquez Amendment, #1, to H.R. 1163
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran


Olszewski Amendment, #1, to H.R. 1163
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Failed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 11
No 15
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran


Final Passage of H.R. 1163 - Prove It Act (As Amended)
Rule: Majority | Display: Raw Absolute | Result: Passed | Status: Closed | Pg# 1/1
Total 26
Yes 15
No 11
Pre 0
Rep. Williams
Rep. Wied
Rep. Velazquez
Rep. Simon
Rep. Stauber
Rep. Bresnahan
Rep. McGarvey
Rep. Olszewski
Rep. Meuser
Rep. Jack
Rep. Scholten
Rep. Conaway
Rep. Van Duyne
Rep. Downing
Rep. McIver
Rep. Goodlander
Rep. Ellzey
Rep. King-Hinds
Rep. Cisneros
Rep. Alford
Rep. Schmidt
Rep. Morrison
Rep. LaLota
Rep. Patronis
Rep. Latimer
Rep. Finstad
Rep. Tran

April 30, 2025

The Honorable Roger Williams
Chair
House Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nydia Velázquez
Ranking Member
House Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
Washinton, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Williams, Ranking Member Velázquez and Members of the U.S. House Committee on Small Business:

On behalf of Associated Builders and Contractors, a national construction industry trade association with 67 chapters representing more than 23,000 members, I write today in support of H.R. 1163, the Prove It Act of 2025, and urge you to favorably report the bill for a full vote in the U.S. House of Representatives. The majority of ABC's general contractor and subcontractor members qualify as small businesses as defined by the Small Business Administration. The industry consistently has one of the highest concentrations of small business participation and its members play an integral role in building America's infrastructure.

Throughout the past four years, small business contractors around the country faced severe economic uncertainty. The Biden administration advanced numerous regulations that imposed substantial burdens on Main Street, picking winners and losers along the way. By circumventing the Regulatory Flexibility Act, agencies implemented almost 900 final rules, crushing small businesses with over $1 trillion in compliance costs and more than 232 million hours of added paperwork.

Last Congress, this committee released an RFA report detailing a concerning lack of compliance in the federal rulemaking process. The report revealed that federal agencies' continuously utilized loopholes in the RFA that allowed them to bypass the proper analysis needed to accurately consider the costs and number of affected small businesses when issuing new rules. What's more, the SBA's Office of Advocacy found agencies often improperly certify that rules will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities, only consider the direct costs on small businesses or misrepresent the costs on small businesses from regulation.

For this reason, ABC is proud to support the Prove It Act, which strengthens the RFA by allowing main street businesses, and the groups that represent them, to petition the SBA to examine whether a federal regulation would have significant economic effects on a large number of small businesses. Currently, agencies are not required to perform a regulatory flexibility analysis if they certify that a proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. Through the Prove It Act, groups like ABC can call on the SBA to challenge the agency's claim and request an analysis if they see fit. The bill also requires agencies to evaluate both direct and indirect costs on small businesses and exempt them from regulatory action if an agency does not comply with the RFA.

It is crucial that we take the necessary steps to ensure that small businesses are not burdened by excessive red tape. Empowering the SBA and small businesses nationwide will restore balance and ensure that the voices of small businesses are considered during the federal rulemaking process. In doing so, we can help to level the playing field for Main Street America.

ABC calls on you to report H.R. 1163 for a full House vote and remains committed to advocating for policies that support the growth and success of small businesses.

Sincerely,

Kristen Swearingen
Vice President, Legislative & Political Affairs

440 First St., N.W., Suite 200 | Washington, DC 20001 | (202) 595-1505 | abc.org

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO

Eric Bunn Sr.
National Secretary-Treasurer

Dr. Everett B. Kelley
National President

Dr. Kendrick B. Roberson
NVP for Women & Fair Practices

April 30, 2025

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO (AFGE), which represents over 800,000 federal and District of Columbia employees in more than 70 agencies, I write urging you to oppose H.R. 2027, the "Returning SBA to Main Street Act." This bill would require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to relocate 30 percent of the employees assigned to headquarters to duty stations outside the Washington metropolitan area. SBA has over 800 employees in the headquarters in Washington, D.C. and approximately 8,500 employees in total, including those in 68 district offices across the country.

H.R. 2027 would cause the loss of highly trained and skilled SBA employees with decades of institutional knowledge, training, and expertise in their local market and established connections to local lenders and small businesses allowing them to provide critical services to the American public in times of great need. The bill's proponents significantly overestimate the cost of keeping the agencies in the DC area. In addition to the direct costs of the relocation, the resulting brain drain from this massive loss of talent will severely damage SBA, and it will take years to rebuild the highly specialized workforce. SBA could be forced to outsource work to entities outside the federal government and acquire additional space placing significant financial strain to the Agency and the American public.

This legislation is harshly punitive toward employees whose only transgression is that they happen to live in the Washington metropolitan region and would be denied even basic relocation costs if they choose to remain with the agency placing a significant financial burden on employees. Further, the legislation supersedes the collective bargaining agreement between SBA management and bans private rights of action by employees, effectively preventing employees from seeking redress if their rights are violated in the process of the relocation.

Further, this bill would limit an employee's ability to participate in union activities, including limiting protections under a collective bargaining agreement or master labor agreement and banning a private right of action for wrongful termination. Collective bargaining rights were enshrined in Title 5 of the U.S. Code at agencies across the federal government and taking them away would destroy the modern civil service system. Title 5 rights ensure that employees can work in a healthy and safe work environment. Title 5 rights help ensure speedy resolution of workplace grievances that are common to any enterprise in the public or private sector. If left unchallenged, it will be American taxpayers who suffer the most when the services they depend on deteriorate.

AFGE urges the Committee to oppose H.R. 2027, the "Returning SBA to Main Street Act." For questions or more information please contact Fiona Kohrman at Fiona.Kohrman@afge.org.

Sincerely,

Daniel M Horowitz

Daniel Horowitz
Acting Legislative Director

AFL-CIO

LEGISLATIVE ALERT

April 29, 2025

Representative Roger Williams
Chairman, House Committee on Small Business
2336 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Nydia M. Velázquez
Ranking Member, House Committee on Small Business
2069 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Williams and Ranking Member Velázquez: On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I urge you to oppose the following deregulatory bills that are scheduled for markup on April 30, 2025:

- H.R. 974, the Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act
- H.R. 1163, The Prove-It Act of 2025

Taken together, these bills would slow down, complicate, and derail life-saving regulations. This week we marked Workers' Memorial Day, remembering the victims of preventable workplace accidents. The AFL-CIO's annual *Death on the Job* report, released this month, underscores the need for more effective enforcement and rulemaking, not less, when it comes to occupational safety and health.[1] These bills would send us backward.

H.R 974 would prohibit the Small Business Administration (SBA) from issuing regulations that have a fiscal impact on small businesses. The bill also mandates a report to Congress on regulations issued by other federal agencies that impact small businesses. It is unclear how the SBA would implement such changes without making cost, not protection of workers or the public, the primary or even sole consideration before overturning or issuing meaningful, enforceable protections. Requiring the SBA to neutralize any new costs to revise existing rules or issue new ones means that costs would *always* outweigh the benefits of protecting workers from dangerous exposures, which is unrealistic for any health and safety regime and frankly devalues human life. Sometimes a business – even a small one – needs to spend a little money to prevent a needless death, injury, or illness.

H.R. 1163 would weaken labor, health, environmental, and safety protections for workers and the public by adding unnecessary, redundant requirements to the rulemaking process which is

[1] AFL-CIO. "Death on the Job: The Toll of Neglect." April 23, 2025. AFLCIO.org/dotj

already hampered with excessive delays. Under a slew of existing laws, the rulemaking process generally requires notice, public comments, studies, and cost-benefit analyses. The law is already very rigorous and comprehensive in minimizing impacts of rulemakings on small businesses and small entities by taking into special account how they would be affected.

H.R. 1163 would invest in one person, the chief counsel of an SBA office, the authority to roll back rules whenever trade associations representing giant corporations file a petition challenging an agency's certification that a regulatory flexibility analysis was not required. Teams of experts make these determinations at the agency over the course of months or years, but one lawyer at SBA would have unreviewable discretion to make this determination and must do so in 30 days. Their judgment will override anyone else's and would result in a life-saving, inexpensive rule being rendered inapplicable to small entities.

The bill would also require agencies to conduct more periodic and redundant reviews of rules, a new resource-consuming process intended to give the same single individual at SBA an opportunity to entirely suspend a rule on a technicality, without regard to the life-threatening consequences for the people the rule protects. The point of this legislation is clear: give big business an easy shot at rolling back or suspending worker protections, along with protections for the public, children, the environment, and so on. It hands big business a veto over a democratic rulemaking process authorized by legislation passed by a democratically elected Congress

The AFL-CIO urges you to oppose both of these bills. They pose a danger to workers' health and safety.

Sincerely,



Jody Calemine
Director, Government Affairs



AMERICAN SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS COUNCIL

712 H Street, NE, PMB 42
Washington DC 20002-3627

April 28, 2025

The Honorable Roger Williams, Chairman
U.S. House Committee on Small Business
2336 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nydia Velazquesz, Ranking Member
U.S. House Committee on Small Business
2069 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: House Bills 2027, 974 and 1163

Dear Chairman Williams, Ranking Member Velazquez and members of the House Committee on Small Business,

The American Sustainable Business Council was founded in 2009 and represents thousands of businesses across our networks. Over the years we have provided testimony to Congressional committees, including this committee, many times particularly on the issue of federal regulations. We have always made the case that good regulations are essential for creating a level playing field for small businesses to effectively compete with large corporations. We believe that good regulations establish the foundation for small businesses to grow and succeed by promoting a healthier workforce, community and environment.

We all want a vibrant, entrepreneurial economy. Until recently, that is what we had in the United States. New business applications have been at an all-time high. Small business owners' optimism on their future and the economy has been very good.

Now, all of these positive signs are down. Not because of existing or proposed regulations. Those don't move the needle.

It is our experience that federal regulations do not stop entrepreneurs from starting businesses. They believe in their dream and are willing to comply with local, state and federal regulations as they move forward and see the benefits for enabling a fair and level playing field to compete.

So, the legislation that are the subject of this input are not intended to drive entrepreneurship. Their purpose is to accommodate to popular political messaging and give tools to big businesses to thwart the regulatory process for their own interests.

With that, here is our input on the three bills in question.

H.R. 2027, Returning SBA to Main Street Act

We applaud any valid actions to support the Small Business Administration in its efforts to promote and grow our nation's small businesses. Putting more resources in our states on "Main Street" is a worthy goal for every state.

However, reducing the overall SBA staff by 43%, as this Act prescribes, undercuts the effectiveness of the SBA being able to perform all of its important tasks. It also fails to live up to the title of the Act which implies that there will be a dramatic increase in SBA staff located in the states.

The math is very clear. Had the SBA staffing level been untouched and, as the bill directs, 30% of those staff were assigned to work in the states, the number of the SBA staff within the states would have been about 2,350, or 47 per state if equally distributed. However, cutting the SBA staff by 43% and then pledging that 30% will work in the states yields about 1,338 for in-state work, or less than 27 per state if equally distributed. This number might be a slight increase over the current number of SBA employees located in the states. but that needs to be documented. However, the promise of this bill is dramatically undercut by the overall reduction of SBA workers.

The present SBA Administration, we are told, is moving forward with the proposed workforce reduction and redistribution regardless of the passage of H.R. 2027, which calls into question the purpose of the Act.

H.R. 974, Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act

The title of this bill more accurately would be "Ban the SBA From Any Rule Making". The Act would prohibit the SBA from issuing a new rule, modifying a rule or repealing a rule. Such changes would naturally require the impacted small business to make administrative and business practice changes that have some cost "greater than 0", even if it is only $1, which H.R. 974 prohibits. This bill actually creates a business burden and expenses greater than any of the regulations it is prohibiting SBA from creating and enforcing.

The other provision of this Act, reporting of all rules issued by every federal agency during the fiscal year, would be better performed by the SBA Office of Advocacy, which is already tasked with working with federal agencies on regulations but is not under the authority of the U.S Small Business Administration.

H.R. 1163, the Prove-It Act of 2025

While we have had our issues with the SBA Office of Advocacy, mainly because for years it has been co-opted from an agency representing small businesses to one doing the bidding of big business, the goals of the agency are shared.

Below is from Advocacy's website:

> Advocacy's role in rulemaking is based on the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980. This law requires agencies to consider alternative ways to reduce the economic impact of their

> regulations on small entities. Advocacy's efforts to have agencies comply with the Regulatory Flexibility Act have saved small businesses billions of dollars in regulatory costs. Our office has worked with federal agencies to avoid excessive regulatory burdens on small businesses since 1980 and continues to do so.

Advocacy points proudly to its success in working with federal agencies to find less burdensome ways of achieving the goals of needed regulations. This is a well-respected and valuable administrative service.

This Act dramatically changes powers of Advocacy from one of working with federal agencies as the "voice of small business in the regulatory process" to a quai-judicial power that has the unilateral ability to force a federal agency into a nightmarishly long and expensive defense of rules from new to those up to 10 years old.

The purpose of this Act is not to have a better process that results in rules being more small business friendly. It is instead a big business effort to freeze new rules and eliminate past rules. By tying up the work of federal agencies, big businesses, as they always do, will essentially shut down federal oversight on all businesses.

Conclusion

We do not oppose honest efforts to help our nation's small businesses be more successful. As stated earlier, good regulations that promote a healthier workforce, community and environment plus creating a level playing field for small businesses to compete with big businesses will foster a vibrant entrepreneurial economy.

These three regulatory bills fail this goal.

Sincerely,

David Levine
President & Cofounder
American Sustainable Business Council

Frank Knapp
Board Member ASBC
& CEO, South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce

Vicki Lee Parker High
Board Member &
Executive Director
North Carolina Sustainable Business Council



Representative Roger Williams
Chairman
House Committee on Small Business
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Nydia Velázquez
Ranking Member
House Committee on Small Business
Washington, DC 20515

April 29, 2025

Dear Chairman Williams and Ranking Member Velázquez:

The Coalition for Sensible Safeguards (CSS), an alliance of over 200 labor, scientific, research, good government, faith, community, health, environmental, and public interest groups, is writing regarding consideration of the Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act, H.R. 2965. This bill would establish a highly unusual regulatory budgeting scheme that seeks to limit the new regulatory costs that the Small Business Administration (SBA) can impose on small businesses through the issuance of new regulations or through the revision of its existing ones. We urge opposition to this legislation.

At the outset, we note that the regulatory budgeting scheme this bill seeks to create raises several practical questions and concerns. First, the bill will entirely chill regulatory activity at the SBA by establishing an unrealistic and problematic regulatory budget requirement. Second, the bill fails to explain how the SBA is supposed to meet the bill's regulatory budget requirements. It appears that the SBA is required to fully offset any new costs that may result when it issues a new rule or revises an existing one by repealing or weakening other existing rules. The apparent goal is that the sum of all the agency's regulatory actions for any given fiscal year is to impose no net costs on small businesses. Given the complexity of such a regulatory budgeting scheme, it is remarkable that the bill fails to explain even these basic implementation details.

Even setting aside the practical shortcomings unique to this bill, all regulatory budgeting programs – regardless of how well designed they may be – are inherently flawed regulatory policy tools. They raise legal questions, given that they force agencies to consider factors not permitted by law (e.g., agencies will have to consider whether they have available rules to eliminate or revise when deciding whether or how to write a new rule – factors that virtually no statute permits or requires agencies to consider). They are resource intensive to implement – and

the delays and costs that result are unlikely to be offset by any benefits that successful implementation might be.

Finally, regulatory budgeting schemes completely ignore the benefits of regulations, which can lead to suboptimal regulatory decision-making. For instance, an agency may fail to issue a new rule that would generate substantial net benefits for the public – that is, it may fail to pursue a policy that makes society better off – simply because it cannot find any offsetting cost reductions. Or an agency might repeal an existing rule that generates large net benefits in order to make space in the regulatory budget for a new rule that generates substantially small net benefits. The upshot in either of these scenarios is that the regulatory budget scheme works to make society worse off than it would have been had it never existed at all.

CSS urges the House of Representatives to oppose the Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act and encourages the Committee to evaluate proposals that offer real and meaningful reforms to strengthen the regulatory process, such as the Stop Corporate Capture Act. We hope to work with the House of Representatives to ensure that our regulatory process is working effectively and efficiently to protect the American public.

We strongly urge opposition to the Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act, H.R. 2965.

Sincerely,



Rachel Weintraub
Executive Director
Coalition for Sensible Safeguards

CC: Members of the House Committee on Small Business



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Chairman
House Committee on Small Business
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Coalition for Sensible Safeguards

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ROGER WILLIAMS, TEXAS
CHAIRMAN

NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ, NEW YORK
RANKING MEMBER

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Small Business
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515–0515

February 12, 2025

Acting Administrator Everett Woodel, Jr.
Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Acting Administrator Woodel:

We write to you as the Ranking Members of the Committee on Small Business and the Committee's Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations Subcommittee regarding a matter of grave concern.

On January 28, 2025, federal employees were sent an email entitled "Fork in the Road" sent by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM).[1] The emailed detailed an offer for "deferred resignation."[2] Furthermore, the administration has requested agencies to deliver lists of all employees who are still within their probationary periods with a reminder that "newly hired members of the workforce are the easiest to fire."[3] According to a memo sent by OPM Acting Director Charles Ezell on January 20, 2025, "[a]gencies should promptly determine whether those employees should be retained at the agency."[4]

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[1] E-Mail from the WHITE HOUSE OFF. OF PERS. & MGMT. (Jan. 28, 2025), (on file with the H. COMM. ON SMALL BUS.).
[2] *Id.*
[3] Drew Friedman, *Trump administration asks agencies for lists of newly hired federal employees,* FED. NEWS NETWORK (Jan. 21, 2025), https://federalnewsnetwork.com/workforce/2025/01/trump-administration-asks-agencies-for-lists-of-newly-hired-federal-employees.
[4] Charles Ezell, *Re: Guidance on Probationary Periods, Administrative Leave and Details*, WHITE HOUSE OFF. OF PERS. & MGMT. (Jan. 20, 2025), https://chcoc.gov/sites/default/files/Guidance%20on%20Probationary%20Periods%2C%20Administrative%20Leave%20and%20Details%201-20-2025%20FINAL.pdf.

The Committee has learned that Small Business Administration (SBA) probationary employees, of which there were at least 1,000 hired within the last year,[5] received an email on February 7, 2025, referencing Title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations informing them that their employment with the U.S. Small Business Administration would be terminated effective close of business on February 21, 2025. Following these termination emails, a subsequent email was sent on February 10, 2025 explaining the unsigned termination letters were a draft and sent in error.[6]

Then, on February 11, 2025 SBA employees received a second notice of termination, of the probationary period[7] stating that "you are not fit for continued employment because your ability, knowledge and skills do not fit the agency's current needs, and/or your performance has not been adequate to justify further employment with the agency."[8] Despite performance reviews to the contrary and experience which fit the agency's mission and programmatic needs, employees were fired, not once, but twice,[9] and the terminations were effective immediately. In one case, the employee, "who had already gone through one performance review cycle and received nearly flawless scores," was told by a supervisor they were shocked and had not received notice of the termination.[10]

Not only is this confusing and mean-spirited for the employees but these actions are harmful to services provided to small businesses. Termination of SBA's small workforce would have a significant and adverse effect on the SBA and the services it currently provides to small businesses.

Furthermore, these actions raise serious legal concerns. Newly hired employees are typically placed on a probationary period for the first year or two of service, depending on their position. Under 5 CFR § 315.803 (a), probationary employees can be terminated "if an employee fails to demonstrate fully his or her qualifications for continued employment." If newly hired federal employees are terminated, then the agency must notify the employees in writing with a reason for their removal based on performance or conduct. Moreover, employees cannot be fired for partisan political purposes.

We are also extremely concerned with the Executive Order entitled "*Donald J. Trump Works to Remake America's Federal Workplace*," which requires agencies to work with the so-called "Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) team housed at the agency to cut the federal workforce. The proposed large-scale and indiscriminate cuts to SBA employees, on top of the most recent terminations of its newly hired employees, will hamper the agency's ability to perform their mission of aiding and counseling small businesses.

SBA's programs have proven effective time and time again. The agency is structured to meet small businesses where they are, and offers contracting, counseling, and access to capital opportunities

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[5] Eric Katz, Some agencies begin purges of recent hires even as OPM directs federal offices to pump the brakes, GovExec.com, Feb. 12, 2025 at https://www.govexec.com/workforce/2025/02/some-agencies-begin-purges-recent-hires-even-opm-directs-federal-offices-pump-brakes/402959/.
[6] *Id.*
[7] Eli Stokols, DOGE order triggers firings at SBA of employees prematurely fired Friday, Politico, Feb. 11, 2025 at https://www.politico.com/news/2025/02/11/sba-employees-fired-by-doge-twice-00203750.
[8] February 12, 2025 email from a terminated employee. On file with the Committee.
[9] Stokols, *supra* note 7.
[10] Katz, *supra* note 5.

to help entrepreneurs launch and grow their firms. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, creating jobs, stimulating innovation, and supporting the local tax base, and they rely on SBA's support. These unprecedented cuts to the agency will reverberate throughout the economy and ultimately harm our nation's 34 million small businesses. We urge you to reconsider your decision to terminate or lay off SBA employees, many of whom work in district and regional offices directly supporting communities all over the country.

We therefore request detailed information and answers to the following as soon as possible but no later than February 21, 2025:

1) A comprehensive list of individuals, including their job titles and offices, who have received notices of termination or were placed on administrative leave.
   a) Break down the information by each program office at SBA and the geographic location.
   b) Break down the information by the number of employees in SBA's district offices and provide a comprehensive list by state or region.
   c) Break down the information by the number of employees who were terminated due to President Trump's directive to agencies to cease any activities related to fairness, infrastructure, and clean energy.

2) How many SBA employees fall into the "newly hired" category and were on probationary status or are temporary employees and how many of these employees received termination letters?

3) The legal authority under which the letters of termination to SBA employees were issued, as well as a copy of the termination or administrative leave letters, and all documents and communications, including drafts regarding the reason for each termination or administrative leave.

   a) Transmit all documents and communications regarding a reason given by a supervisor explaining why a probationary employee should stay in the government.

4) The law requires that each employee's performance be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Please describe in detail how SBA conducted reviews, if at all.

   a) Transmit all documents and communications related to performance reviews of individuals sent a termination letter.

5) Were any individuals who received these letters terminated without cause? Please provide a detailed explanation and list of all employees who received letters and were terminated without cause.

6) How many notifications were sent to SBA employees indicating that the termination notices were a mistake, and how many employees were ultimately refired?

   a) Transmit documents, communications, and emails sent to individuals.

7) How many civil service employees at SBA have been reassigned to new positions where they could be hired and fired like political appointees?

8) Transmit all communications and documents between OPM and SBA regarding the Fork in the Road efforts and the Executive Order entitled "*Donald J. Trump Works to Remake America's Federal Workplace*."

9) How will hallowing out the SBA's workforce enable the agency to achieve its mission of aiding small businesses?

Pursuant to Rule X of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Small Business has broad authority to investigate "problems of all types of small business." The Committee possesses jurisdiction over "assistance to and protection of small businesses."

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact the Committee's minority staff at 202-225-4038.

Sincerely,

Derek T. Tran
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Oversight,
Investigations, and Regulations

Nydia M. Velázquez
Ranking Member
House Small Business Committee

ROGER WILLIAMS, TEXAS
CHAIRMAN

NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ, NEW YORK
RANKING MEMBER

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Small Business
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515–0515

February 3, 2025

Acting Administrator Woodel
Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Acting Administrator Woodel:

We write to express our alarm over reports that officials associated with Elon Musk and his quasi-governmental side project called the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) have requested and are being granted access to the Small Business Administration's (SBA) systems. Per an email sent to SBA employees, "access to all SBA systems" is being granted, including HR, contract, and payment systems. According to reports, employees were told such access was authorized yet the identity of who granted this permission remains unknown.

This unprecedented access to unauthorized non-governmental individuals will have wide-ranging implications for America's 34 million small businesses. It is especially concerning given the recent access provided to the Bureau of Fiscal Service's payment systems[1] and the actions taken regarding the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).[2]

The Small Business Administration (SBA) helps entrepreneurs launch and grow their small businesses through several proven and time-tested programs that provide access to capital, counseling and entrepreneurial training, and disaster assistance. In FY 2024, SBA supported at least $37.7 billion in 7(a) loans, 504 loans, and microloans; counseled and trained more than 644,000 small business owners; and provided billions of dollars in loans for disaster survivors.[3]

After last week's attempt to freeze federal grants and loans, we are concerned that Musk's followers intend to block critical SBA services from reaching our nation's small employers. Unauthorized access to SBA's systems hurts not just small employers but also SBA's vast network of lenders and resource partners and will have a disastrous effect on the services provided to small

[1] SBA Grants DOGE Full Access to Its Systems, Yeshiva World News, Feb. 3. 2025, https://www.theyeshivaworld.com/news/liveblogs/live-blog/2360047/sba-grants-doge-full-access-to-its-systems.html.
[2] Will Steakin, et al., Turmoil inside USAID as Musk calls the agency "criminal' and says it has to die, ABCNews.com, Feb. 3, 2025, https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/turmoil-inside-usaid-doge-reps-offices-senior-officials/story?id=118368900.
[3] U.S. SMALL BUS. ADMIN., FISCAL YEAR 2024 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT (Jan. 2025).

businesses. Beyond the operational impact, this breach endangers the private information of small business owners, SBA resource partners, and employees. It is alarming that sensitive personal information, including names, addresses, business returns, and banking information could not only be compromised but also downloaded onto new servers or integrated into a database accessible to unauthorized users.[4] These businesses are taxpayers and deserve to know their information is protected, safe, and not used for nefarious purposes. We strongly object to granting any outside, unauthorized, non-governmental person access to this confidential and sensitive information.

We are deeply concerned that allowing sensitive information could not just harm our nation's small employers by eliminating critical services but also create an anticompetitive environment. Allowing an unelected billionaire and his associates to gain access to SBA's systems and proprietary information could allow him or any inexperienced aides to target entrepreneurs.

Our nation's small business community deserves better than this Administration's attempts to target them and the critical programs they rely on to start, operate, and grow their businesses. Instead of attacking our Main Street businesses, we should be working together to provide more investments in the policies that will help them continue to create jobs and grow our economy.

These actions combined with the termination of the independent SBA Inspector General on January 24, 2025, are particularly troubling. The Offices of Inspector General was created to independently and objectively hold federal agencies accountable – without the need for DOGE. The American people deserve answers about this mismanagement, which threatens the privacy and economic security of every American. Please answer the following questions by February 7, 2025:

1) Are the reports accurate that Elon Musk and his team have access to SBA's systems? If so:
    a. What are the names of the specific systems?
    b. Who has asked to gain access to the systems and for what purpose?
    c. Who granted access?
    d. Have any of these requests been approved? Are any still under consideration?
    e. What information was obtained and what is it being used for?
    f. Was there any breach of personal information?
2) The Executive Order directs each agency head to establish a DOGE team of at least four employees within each agency. Please provide a comprehensive list of all DOGE employees at SBA, as well as a specific list of every individual who has been granted access to the system since President Trump's inauguration.
    a. Did they have appropriate clearances to protect sensitive information?
    b. Please provide detailed information on how DOGE individuals complied with Ethics in Government Act, which include specific financial disclosure and conflict of interest safeguards.
    c. Are the DOGE employees internal or external hires?
    d. What specific access has been granted, and what was the rationale for doing so?

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[4] Billy Mitchell, Lawsuit claims systems behind OPM governmentwide email blast are illegal, insecure, FEDSCOOP.com, Jan. 28, 2025, https://fedscoop.com/opm-email-federal-workforce-lawsuit-server-privacy-security/.

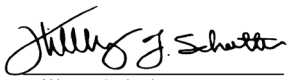
   e. Can you confirm that no individual outside the SBA has been granted access to the systems since President Trump's inauguration?
3) What safeguards are in place to ensure access to these systems are not abused?
   a. What safeguards are in place to protect Americans' personal and private data?
   b. What safeguards are in place to protect the integrity of the programs and ensure that no authorized service or payment is delayed or canceled?
   c. Please detail the extent to which you complied with the Privacy Act of 1974, which prescribes how federal agency records are stored, accessed, used, and disclosed?
4) The EO Establishing and Implementing the President's Department of Government Efficiency reorganizes the U.S. Digital Service, to be led by an Administrator within DOGE who reports to the White House Chief of Staff. While we've seen reports that Elon Musk is leading this effort, we've seen no formal communications from the White House naming Elon Musk as Administrator. Please provide specific information as to who is the administrator at DOGE, and please list all of the vetting of the appointment that has taken place.
5) What role did you personally play in granting access to Mr. Musk or other individuals affiliated with him?
6) What procedures are in place for controlling and providing access to the system, and were these procedures followed in this case?
7) Were any SBA employees threatened with administrative leave or otherwise in order for access to be granted?
8) Did President Trump, Elon Musk, or anyone at the White House suggest making any threats to fire or place anyone on leave that objected to grant the access? If yes, who suggested it and when did they suggest it?
9) Has the SBA threatened to remove or put any other career civil servants at the Small Business Administration on administrative leave following President Trump's inauguration? Has anyone else in those offices left the Department since then?
10) Were additional unsecured servers set up after access was granted to the SBA's systems? If so:
   a. What purpose do they serve and why were they necessary?
   b. Please provide a list of anyone with access to these servers?
   c. Have these servers undergone a Privacy Impact Assessment? If so, please provide detailed information.
11) Please provide the legal authority under which the SBA granted access to systems to anyone associated with Elon Musk or DOGE
12) Copies of all communications between associates of Elon Musk or DOGE and the SBA related to accessing SBA's systems.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact committee staff. We look forward to your response.

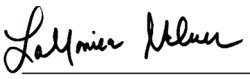
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House Small Business Committee

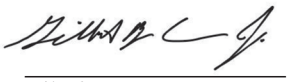
Morgan McGarvey
Member Of Congress



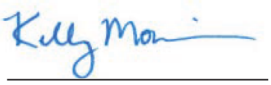
Hillary Scholten
Member of Congress



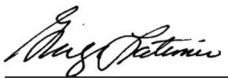
LaMonica McIver
Member Of Congress



Gil Cisneros
Member of Congress



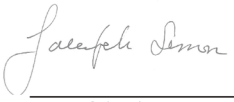
Kelly Morrison
Member Of Congress



George Latimer
Member of Congress



Derek Tran
Member Of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Johnny Olszewski
Member Of Congress



Herb Conaway
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander
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    c. Are the DOGE employees internal or external hires?
    d. What specific access has been granted, and what was the rationale for doing so?

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[4] Billy Mitchell, Lawsuit claims systems behind OPM governmentwide email blast are illegal, insecure, FEDSCOOP.com, Jan. 28, 2025, https://fedscoop.com/opm-email-federal-workforce-lawsuit-server-privacy-security/.

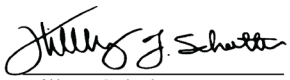
   e. Can you confirm that no individual outside the SBA has been granted access to the systems since President Trump's inauguration?
3) What safeguards are in place to ensure access to these systems are not abused?
   a. What safeguards are in place to protect Americans' personal and private data?
   b. What safeguards are in place to protect the integrity of the programs and ensure that no authorized service or payment is delayed or canceled?
   c. Please detail the extent to which you complied with the Privacy Act of 1974, which prescribes how federal agency records are stored, accessed, used, and disclosed?
4) The EO Establishing and Implementing the President's Department of Government Efficiency reorganizes the U.S. Digital Service, to be led by an Administrator within DOGE who reports to the White House Chief of Staff. While we've seen reports that Elon Musk is leading this effort, we've seen no formal communications from the White House naming Elon Musk as Administrator. Please provide specific information as to who is the administrator at DOGE, and please list all of the vetting of the appointment that has taken place.
5) What role did you personally play in granting access to Mr. Musk or other individuals affiliated with him?
6) What procedures are in place for controlling and providing access to the system, and were these procedures followed in this case?
7) Were any SBA employees threatened with administrative leave or otherwise in order for access to be granted?
8) Did President Trump, Elon Musk, or anyone at the White House suggest making any threats to fire or place anyone on leave that objected to grant the access? If yes, who suggested it and when did they suggest it?
9) Has the SBA threatened to remove or put any other career civil servants at the Small Business Administration on administrative leave following President Trump's inauguration? Has anyone else in those offices left the Department since then?
10) Were additional unsecured servers set up after access was granted to the SBA's systems? If so:
   a. What purpose do they serve and why were they necessary?
   b. Please provide a list of anyone with access to these servers?
   c. Have these servers undergone a Privacy Impact Assessment? If so, please provide detailed information.
11) Please provide the legal authority under which the SBA granted access to systems to anyone associated with Elon Musk or DOGE
12) Copies of all communications between associates of Elon Musk or DOGE and the SBA related to accessing SBA's systems.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact committee staff. We look forward to your response.

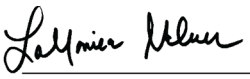
Sincerely,

Nydia M. Velázquez
Ranking Member
House Small Business Committee

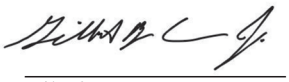
Morgan McGarvey
Member Of Congress



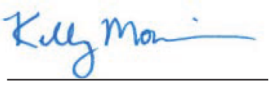
Hillary Scholten
Member of Congress



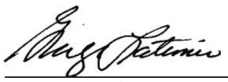
LaMonica McIver
Member Of Congress



Gil Cisneros
Member of Congress



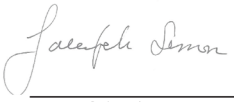
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ROGER WILLIAMS, TEXAS
CHAIRMAN

NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ, NEW YORK
RANKING MEMBER

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Small Business
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515–0515

February 12, 2025

Acting Administrator Everett Woodel, Jr.
Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Acting Administrator Woodel:

We write to follow up on the letter we sent on February 3, 2025 requesting information on reports that officials associated with Elon Musk and the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) have requested and are being granted access to the Small Business Administration's (SBA) systems. In our letter, we requested a response to our questions by February 7, 2025, and to date, you have failed to respond to our concerns. Instead, you sent a response yesterday – four days past the deadline – that reflects an attitude of indifference towards legitimate congressional oversight. Small business owners deserve better.

First and foremost, the actions being taken by Elon Musk to dismantle the federal government are illegal and unconstitutional, and SBA's blatant disregard of our request for information about the DOGE's infiltration of the SBA is particularly troubling. As more information is publicly released about DOGE, our concerns are becoming increasingly heightened. That is why we are reiterating our request for information, and we expect a detailed and thorough response.

According to the Executive Order *Establishing and Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency*," the U.S. Digital Service is being renamed the U.S. DOGE Service wherein specific parameters must be met to operate.[1] However, there has been no formal or public effort to comply with such requirements, including a formal appointment of an Administrator. Despite Elon Musk acting as the Administrator and seemingly having been granted status as "Special Government Employee," there is no evidence for which he or his associates have provided to confirm they meet this special status, nor has evidence shown that they have undergone proper vetting to access government systems containing taxpayer and government data.

[1] The White House, Establishing and Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency" (Jan. 20, 2025) located at https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/establishing-and-implementing-the-presidents-department-of-government-efficiency/.

As the Committee overseeing the SBA and its operations, we have a duty to protect and ensure the SBA's systems are only accessed by qualified and authorized personnel. That is why we raised our strong concerns about the sensitivity of the data obtained, which could include personally identifiable information (PII) of small business owners, SBA resource partners, and employees. Personal information, including names, addresses, business returns, and banking information may have been downloaded onto new unprotected servers or integrated into a database accessible to unauthorized users. Since then, we have learned through news reports that one of the individuals who was granted access to SBA systems was previously fired from a cybersecurity firm for leaking company secrets to competitors.[2] The infiltration of the SBA by these unvetted individuals who gained access to SBA critical networks and sensitive information of small business owners is particularly disturbing.

Additionally, recent reports indicate that sensitive data and taxpayer PII from other agencies have been input into artificial intelligence (AI) models with the intent of having AI tools recommend agency cuts and task automations.[3] We find this particularly egregious on a number of levels. Small employers and entrepreneurs should not have their sensitive government information accessed as inputs in AI models without their knowledge and the reliability of the AI models making decisions on government agency operations and programs.[4]

The SBA's lack of a complete response undermines the Committee's investigation into these efforts. Further, the Committee must reiterate its serious concerns regarding the SBA's efforts to comply with its legitimate oversight requests. We therefore request the following information and answers as soon as possible but no later than February 14, 2025:

1. Responses to our inquiries included in correspondence dated February 3, 2025. For your convenience the questions that are awaiting a response are below.

1) Are the reports accurate that Elon Musk and his team have access to SBA's systems? If so:
    a. What are the names of the specific systems?
    b. Who has asked to gain access to the systems and for what purpose?
    c. Who granted access?
    d. Have any of these requests been approved? Are any still under consideration?
    e. What information was obtained and what is it being used for?
    f. Was there any breach of personal information?

2) The Executive Order directs each agency head to establish a DOGE team of at least four employees within each agency. Please provide a comprehensive list of all DOGE employees at SBA, as well as a

[2] Jason Leopold, et al., Musk's DOGE Teen Was Fired by Cybersecurity Firm for Leaking Company Secrets, Bloomberg.com, Feb. 7, 2025, available at https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2025-02-07/musk-s-doge-teen-was-fired-by-cybersecurity-firm-for-leaking-company-secrets?.
[3] Hannah Natanson et al., *Elon Musk's DOGE is feeding sensitive federal data into AI to target cuts*, WASH. POST. (Feb. 6, 2025), https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2025/02/06/elon-musk-doge-ai-department-education.
[4] *Id.*

specific list of every individual who has been granted access to the system since President Trump's inauguration.

a. Did they have appropriate clearances to protect sensitive information?
b. Please provide detailed information on how DOGE individuals complied with Ethics in Government Act, which include specific financial disclosure and conflict of interest safeguards.
c. Are the DOGE employees internal or external hires?
d. What specific access has been granted, and what was the rationale for doing so? confirm that no individual outside the SBA has been granted access to the systems since President Trump's inauguration?

3) What safeguards are in place to ensure access to these systems are not abused?
   a. What safeguards are in place to protect Americans' personal and private data?
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5) What role did you personally play in granting access to Mr. Musk or other individuals affiliated with him?

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8) Did President Trump, Elon Musk, or anyone at the White House suggest making any threats to fire or place anyone on leave that objected to grant the access? If yes, who suggested it and when did they suggest it?

9) Has the SBA threatened to remove or put any other career civil

servants at the Small Business Administration on administrative leave following President Trump's inauguration? Has anyone else in those offices left the Department since then?

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11) Please provide the legal authority under which the SBA granted access to systems to anyone associated with Elon Musk or DOGE.

12) Copies of all communications between associates of Elon Musk or DOGE and the SBA related to accessing SBA's systems.

2. Does the SBA have possession of a memorandum of understanding between SBA and DOGE or any document detailing its planned actions under the Executive Order *Establishing and Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency*," as required by the E.O.14158. Please transmit such documents to the Committee.

3. How are conflicts of interest being vetted and reported regarding any individual being given access to SBA's data?

4. Going forward, what steps will the SBA take to ensure the protection of small business data?

5. Will you pledge to work with and immediately notify the Committee of further interactions and work with DOGE efforts?

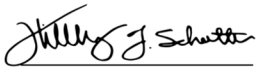
Pursuant to Rule X of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Small Business has broad authority to investigate "problems of all types of small business." The Committee possesses jurisdiction over "assistance to and protection of small businesses."

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact the Committee's minority staff at 202-225-4038.

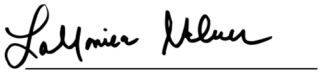
Sincerely,

Nydia M. Velázquez
Ranking Member
House Small Business Committee

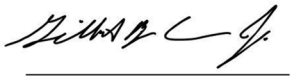
Morgan McGarvey
Member of Congress



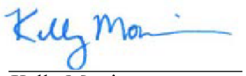
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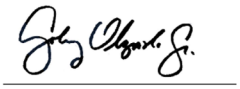
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ROGER WILLIAMS, TEXAS
CHAIRMAN

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RANKING MEMBER

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Small Business
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515–0515

March 10, 2025

Director Russell Vought
Office of Management and Budget
1650 17th Street, NW
Washington DC 20006

Administrator Kelly Loeffler
Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Director Vought and Administrator Loeffler:

We write to express our concerns over recent actions to freeze funding on federal grants and loans.

Over the course of the past month, the Trump Administration has issued a number of executive orders and memorandum that has cause widespread confusion and chaos. On January 20, 2025, President Trump signed several executive orders pausing federal funding while the Administration evaluates whether the assistance aligns with its policy goals. On January 27, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued Memo M-25-13, which imposed an unprecedented freeze on nearly every federal program,[1] which was blatantly unconstitutional. The following day, a federal judge temporarily stayed the implementation of the memo in response to a lawsuit filed by Democracy Forward.[2] Then to add to the confusion, the White House rescinded the memo freezing aid on January 29,[3] but the White House press secretary posted on social media that the executive orders on federal funding will "remain in full force."[4] Temporary restraining orders were issued to block the implementation of the freeze on existing awards on January 31[5] and February 3.[6] On February 10, a District Court judge ruled that the Administration was not in compliance with the orders, and stated that in some cases, agencies "have continued to improperly freeze funds and refused to resume the disbursements of appropriated federal funds."[7]

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[1] Matthew J. Vaeth, *Temporary Pause of Agency Grant, Loan, and Other Financial Assistance Programs,* WHITE HOUSE OFF. OF MGMT. & BUDGET (Jan. 27, 2025) (on file with the H. COMM. ON SMALL BUS.).
[2] Order of Administrative Stay, ECF No. 13, NAT'L COUNCIL OF NONPROFITS v. OFF. OF MGMT. & BUDGET, No. 1:25-cv-00239-LLA (D.D.C. Jan. 28, 2025).
[3] Matthew J. Vaeth, *Recission of M-25-13*, WHITE HOUSE OFF. OF MGMT. & BUDGET (Jan. 29, 2025), https://www.cfo.gov/assets/files/M-25-14%20Final.pdf.
[4] Karoline Leavitt (@PressSec), Twitter (Jan. 29, 2025, 1:40 PM), https://x.com/PressSec/status/1884672871944901034.
[5] TRO, ECF No. 50, N.Y. v. Trump, No. 1:25-cv-00039-JJM-PAS (D.R.I. Jan. 31, 2025).
[6] Mem. Op. & Order, ECF No. 30, NAT'L COUNCIL OF NONPROFITS v. OFF. OF MGMT. & BUDGET, No. 1:25-cv-00239-LLA (D.D.C. Feb. 3, 2025).
[7] Order on Mot. To Enforce TRO, ECF No. 96, N.Y. v. Trump, No. 1:25-cv-00039-JJM-PAS (D.R.I. Feb. 10, 2025).

First and foremost, these executive actions have wide-ranging implications for America's 34.8 million small businesses. The Small Business Administration (SBA) helps entrepreneurs launch and grow their small businesses through a number of proven and time-tested programs that provide access to capital, counseling and entrepreneurial training, and disaster assistance. In Fiscal Year 2024, SBA supported at least $37.7 billion in 7(a) loans, 504 loans, and microloans; counseled and trained more than 644,000 small business owners; and provided billions of dollars in loans for disaster survivors.[8]

The memorandum and executive orders have sown a tremendous amount of undue confusion amongst SBA's network of lenders and resource partners. Small businesses rely heavily on SBA's lending, counseling, and contracting programs to launch and build their businesses, and any lapse in funding, even for a short period of time, can impact their viability, cashflow, and services. Moreover, the SBA's disaster assistance program is a major source of disaster aid for survivors as it provides low-interest loans to small businesses and households that need to repair their homes and businesses. SBA disaster aid has already been delayed to the victims of the recent hurricanes, flooding, and wildfires, and any further delays will imperil the ability of small businesses in North Carolina, Florida, California, and Texas to reopen their doors.

It is unclear how SBA is implementing these executive orders, or how OMB plans to review these programs that are a lifeline to millions of small businesses. As the Ranking Member of the Small Business Committee and the Committee's Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations, with oversight responsibility of the SBA, we are writing to request a comprehensive and detailed list of any SBA programs, services, grants, contracts, projects, loan guarantees, disaster loans, and other funding that have been paused, curtailed, or terminated due to these actions.

To that end, we request the information and answers to the following questions as soon as possible but no later than March 24, 2025.

1) Please provide a comprehensive list of all SBA programs, services, grants, contracts, projects, loan guarantees, disaster loans, contracts, and other funding that have been implicated by the executive orders and detail the date on which the funding has been paused, curtailed, or terminated, and the specific amount of funding.
2) Provide a detailed explanation of the criteria used to review the programs, services, grants, contracts, contracts, projects, loan guarantees, disaster loans, and other funding that have been paused, curtailed or terminated.
3) Provide an explanation of the statutory authority for any pauses, curtailment, or termination of funding.
4) SBA's resource partners and other grant recipients operate on a reimbursable basis, some quarterly and some monthly. How will these executive orders affect their pending reimbursements for services already provided to small businesses?
5) For programs in which funding has been paused, is there a "stop work" order for resource partners, grant recipients, or contractors?

[8] U.S. SMALL BUS. ADMIN., FISCAL YEAR 2024 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT (Jan. 2025).

6) Will resource partners be reimbursed for providing statutorily mandated services during any pause in funding?
7) What guidance do you plan to issue to resource partners, grant recipients, contractors, and anyone else affected by these executive orders? How do you plan to disseminate information and answer recipients' questions, in light of staffing freezes and terminations?
8) What are the number and value of any SBA contracts or grants identified as savings on the DOGE website?
9) What are number and value of any terminated contracts or grants that were awarded to a small business concern?
10) What is the total number of contracts terminated? What authority is cited for each termination, specifically referencing the executive order or the agency memo/directive/letter implementing government-wide initiatives?
11) What are the total award value (or ceiling) and the total obligated funds per contract to date, as well as the remaining period of performance?
12) What is the dollar value of invoices from any terminated contracts that have been submitted to SBA for work performed by the contractor that have not yet been paid by SBA?

Pursuant to Rule X of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Small Business has broad authority to investigate "problems of all types of small business." The Committee possesses jurisdiction over "assistance to and protection of small businesses."

With that said, Congress appropriated funds to SBA for programs to help entrepreneurs launch and grow their small businesses. These deleterious actions undercut those services for millions of small businesses owners across the country, and we urge you to reverse course immediately.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact the Committee's minority staff at 202-225-4038.

Sincerely,

Nydia M. Velázquez
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business

Derek T. Tran
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Oversight,
Investigations, and Regulations

April 29, 2025

The Honorable Roger Williams
Chairman
House Committee on Small Business
United States House of Representatives
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nydia M. Velázquez
Ranking Member
House Committee on Small Business
United States House of Representatives
2069 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Williams and Ranking Member Velázquez,

In advance of the House Small Business Committee's markup tomorrow, the Job Creators Network expresses its strong support for the H.R. 1163, the "Prove It Act of 2025," re-introduced earlier this year by Representative Finstad. JCN urges the Committee to pass this bipartisan legislation that would ensure federal agencies conduct meaningful reviews of the burden proposed rules would have on small business and hold them accountable if they do not.

JCN is a nonpartisan organization founded by entrepreneurs who believe that many government policies are getting in the way of the economic freedom that helped make this country prosperous.

JCN provides business leaders and entrepreneurs with the tools to become the voice of free enterprise in the media, in Congress, in state capitals, in their communities, and their workplaces – allowing them to hold politicians accountable to job creators and their employees.

The "Prove It Act of 2025" would help shield small businesses from executive overreach and provide Main Street with important tools to help contend with government overregulation.

JCN urges all members of the Committee to support and pass this important legislation that would ensure federal agencies conduct meaningful reviews of the burden proposed rules would have on small business and hold them accountable if they do not.

According to the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy small businesses employ almost half – 46.4 percent – of America's employees.[1] Truly America's job creators, small businesses accounted for 62.7 percent of net new jobs from 1995 to 2021.[2]

[1] U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy, "What's New With Small Business?" (March 2023).
[2] Id.

15455 North Dallas Parkway, Suite 600 • Addison, TX 75001 • JobCreatorsNetwork.com



Despite their significant contributions to our nation's economy, small business owners get the short end of the stick when it comes to regulation -- one size does *not* fit all.

It is well-documented that small business owners are disproportionately negatively impacted by regulations as compared to big businesses.

When it comes to regulation, it is important to remember that seventy-nine percent of small businesses have fewer than ten employees.[3] Firms with fewer than ten employees do not employ attorneys, accountants, or human resource professionals. If they are lucky, they have someone to manage sales. As a practical matter that means that it is the small business owner who is tasked with those duties, many of which involve regulatory compliance.

Moreover, small business owners spend more on regulation than larger businesses. Businesses with fewer than fifty employees pay $14,700 per employee, as compared to $13,800 per employee for medium-sized businesses, and $12,200 per employee for large businesses.[4]

Despite these realities, increasingly we see federal regulators view their legal obligation to assess small business impact of new regulations as nothing more than a "check the box" exercise. According to an investigation conducted by the House Committee on Small Business, many government agencies in Washington are "failing to properly implement" statutes intended to shield small businesses from overburdensome regulations.[5]

For example, the Army Corps of Engineers has twice certified as *not* significantly impacting small businesses its proposal to redefine "waters of the United States" in a way that would require millions of landowners to get a federal permit before doing things as simple as moving mulch. Similarly, the Department of Labor had the audacity to certify its 2024 regulation that effectively converts most independent contractors into employees as a mandate with insignificant impact on small business. These are just two of many examples where federal bureaucrats are not following the letter and spirit of the Regulatory Flexibility Act when it comes to protecting small businesses from one-size-fits-all regulation.

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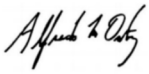
[3] *See* John McLaughlin and Scott Rasmussen, "Small Business IQ Monthly Poll" Job Creators Network.
[4] Nicole V. Crain and W. Mark Crain, "The Cost of Federal Regulation to the U.S. Economy, Manufacturing, and Small Business," Oct. 2023.
[5] House Committee on Small Business, "Williams, Luetkemeyer, and Van Duyne Lead Committee on Small Business Oversight of the Biden Administration's Regulatory Agenda" (Feb. 23, 2023).

The "Prove It Act of 2025" fulfills a key pillar of the Job Creators Network's American Small Business Prosperity Plan—an eight-point policy blueprint -- by reducing the regulatory burden on small businesses.[6]

The "Prove It Act of 2025" would bolster existing law that federal agencies have been side-stepping at the expense of small businesses. It would hold agencies accountable by providing a meaningful opportunity for small businesses to challenge an agency certification that a proposed regulation would not impact a substantial number of small entities. And small businesses would be exempt from any rule in which an agency fails to follow the law.

Small business regulatory protections are in dire need of restoration. Passage of the "Prove It Act of 2025" would be a step in the right direction. We commend the Committee for its leadership on behalf of Main Street and marking up this important legislation. JCN urges its passage. It is time for all of our elected leaders in Washington to prioritize Main Street.

Alfredo Ortiz
CEO
Job Creators Network



[6] Job Creators Network, "The American Small Business Prosperity Plan"

National Association of Home Builders

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Washington, DC 20005

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F 202 266 8400

www.NAHB.org

Government Affairs

Lake A. Coulson
Senior Vice President & Chief Lobbyist

April 29, 2025

The Honorable Roger Williams
Chairman
Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nydia Velazquez
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Williams and Ranking Member Velazquez:

On behalf of the more than 140,000 members of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), I am writing to express our strong support for the *Prove It Act of 2025* (H.R. 1163), which would increase small business input in the regulatory process and ensure agencies are fully accounting for the impact of regulations on small businesses. NAHB urges the Committee to favorably report out this bill.

While the original congressional intent and subsequent enhancements to the Regulatory Flexibility Act are to be lauded, the reality is that far too often agencies either view compliance with the Act as little more than a procedural check-the-box exercise, or they artfully avoid compliance by other means entirely. The *Prove It Act* will ensure agencies thoughtfully consider the true cost of regulations on small businesses by requiring a more thorough analysis, including indirect costs associated with the proposed rule.

In April, NAHB Chairman Buddy Hughes testified before the House Small Business Committee that, "regulatory costs have a direct and negative effect on housing affordability." In fact, on average, nearly 25% of the cost of a single-family home is attributable to government regulation. While appropriate regulations play a key role in protecting health and safety, NAHB believes federal agencies rarely consider the unique burden small businesses face in complying with regulations as Congress intended with the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Ensuring that regulations consider the true cost of compliance on small businesses in the home building industry would go a long way in helping to overcome the nation's housing supply crisis. For this reason, NAHB urges the committee to support the *Prove It Act of 2025*.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Lake A. Coulson

555 12th Street NW, Suite 1001
Washington, D.C. 20004

1-800-552-5342
NFIB.com

February 10, 2025

The Honorable Brad Finstad
United States House of Representatives
2418 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Finstad,

On behalf of NFIB, the nation's leading small business advocacy organization, I write in strong support of the *Prove It Act of 2025*. This legislation would strengthen requirements for agencies to analyze the impact of regulations and increase small business engagement in the regulatory process.

Every four years, NFIB members rank "unreasonable government regulation" as one of the top problems facing their businesses.[1] Unfortunately, regulatory agencies in Washington finalized an unprecedented $1.8 trillion of new regulatory burdens over the last four years.

This tsunami of new regulations have a disproportionate impact on small businesses that do not have compliance officers or lawyers who can help them navigate new regulatory requirements. Unfortunately, this is not how Congress envisioned agencies promulgating and finalizing regulations.

In 1980, Congress and President Carter recognized the disproportionate impact that burdensome regulations had on small businesses and enacted the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA). The RFA requires federal agencies to analyze the impact their regulatory actions will have on small entities. The law states that when the regulatory impact is likely to be significant or affect a substantial number of small entities, federal agencies are required to seek less burdensome alternatives for the regulatory action. Unfortunately, NFIB's 2023 study examining the effectiveness of RFA found

[1] Holly Wade & Madeline Oldstone, *Small Business Problems & Priorities*, NFIB Research Center, July 2024, https://nfib.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/2024-Small-Business-Problems-Priorities.pdf.

that agencies often use loopholes in the RFA to underreport, minimize, or ignore the impact their regulatory actions will have on small businesses.[2]

When agencies circumvent the requirements of the RFA to minimize the impact of burdensome regulations, it leaves small businesses facing the brunt of new regulatory costs. These regulatory burdens result in forgone growth and investments back into their business.

Last year, the House of Representatives sought to close the loopholes in the RFA that federal agencies have exploited or ignored by passing the *Prove It Act* with bipartisan support[3].

Specifically, the *Prove It Act* would provide small businesses with the ability to raise concerns when regulators fail to consider both the direct and indirect costs of their regulations. Additionally, the legislation allows small businesses to request the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy to review agencies' work and ensure agencies are fully compliant with the RFA. Lastly, if an agency fails to comply with the review process, the *Prove It Act* exempts small businesses from the regulatory action altogether.

NFIB strongly supports the *Prove It Act* and urges Congress to promptly enact this legislation. Small businesses appreciate your continued leadership to reduce onerous regulatory burdens and red tape.

Sincerely,



Dylan Rosnick
Principal, Federal Government Relations
NFIB

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[2] Rob Smith, *The Regulatory Flexibility Act: Turing a Paper Tiger Into a Legitimate Constraint on One-Size-Fits-All Agency Rulemaking*, NFIB Legal Center, May 2023, https://strgnfibcom.blob.core.windows.net/nfibcom/NFIB-RFA-White-paper.pdf.
[3] Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, *Roll Call 489 | Bill Number: H.R. 7198*, December 5, 2024, https://clerk.house.gov/Votes/2024489

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 30, 2025

The Honorable Kelly L. Loeffler
Administrator
U.S. Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Administrator Loeffler:

We write to you to express concerns regarding your recent actions regarding the National Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Advisory Board and Regional Regulatory Fairness Boards. We are particularly concerned about the termination of Ms. Adria Bagshaw and Ms. Melissa Florio in the middle of their terms without explanation and urge that you reinstate them immediately to their positions.

The Small Business Administration's (SBA) Small Business Development Center (SBDC) program's stated mission is to "promote entrepreneurship, small business growth and the U.S. economy." The SBDC Advisory Board plays a critical role in overseeing the SBDC program, evaluating its effectiveness and offering proposals to improve it. As you likely know, the SBDC Advisory Board is mandated by statute, under Section 21 of the Small Business Act.[1] The statute states that the board shall consist of nine members, "who shall be persons of outstanding qualifications known to be familiar and sympathetic with small business needs and problems" and further outlines board appointees' term lengths.

Adria Bagshaw, Vice President & Co-owner of W.H. Bagshaw Company, Inc. a precision manufacturing company in Nashua, NH, was appointed to a three-year term on the SBDC Advisory Board that was set to conclude in August 2026. Her company has benefited from the SBDC program's guidance, resources, and strategic advising over its 150-year history. Given her company's longstanding interactions with the SBDC program, she was and would remain an asset to the SBDC Advisory Board. However, she recently received a letter from your agency announcing her immediate, early termination as part of your initiative to "reconstitute all boards."

The Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) was passed in 1996 to reduce the regulatory burden on small businesses and give them more of a voice in the development of new federal regulations. Among the provisions of SBREFA was the creation of ten Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards, which would each have five small business representatives to advise the SBA on "matters of concern to small businesses relating to the enforcement activities of agencies."[2]

Melissa Florio, President of Ambix Manufacturing, a plastics engineering and manufacturing company in Albany, NH, was also appointed to a three-year term in 2023,[3] and has served on the Region One Regulatory Fairness Board ably. Despite starting Ambix during the Great Recession, she has helped it grow to compete to provide services and custom manufacturing both domestically and abroad. Unfortunately, she received a virtually identical letter ending her term on the Regulatory Fairness Board early.

These terminations leave these boards dramatically understaffed. The SBDC Advisory Board is required to have nine members – but now has only two. Similarly, the Regional Regulatory Fairness Boards had 37 members less than two years ago[4] but now have only five.[5] Concerningly, it is our understanding that not all existing members of the SBDC received early termination letters. Further, if reshoring manufacturing jobs remains a priority for the Administration—a

[1] 15 U.S.C. § 648
[2] 15 U.S.C. § 657
[3] https://www.sba.gov/article/2023/09/29/sba-announces-17-new-members-holds-regulatory-fairness-board-meeting
[4] Ibid.
[5] https://www.sba.gov/priorities/councils-and-committees/regional-regulatory-fairness-boards

priority that we share—it would be well served by allowing Ms. Bagshaw and Ms. Florio to continue advising on how best to support small domestic manufacturers on these boards.

Above all, we are concerned that the sudden decision, made without Congressional notification or any public justification, harms small businesses across the country, who benefit from having local small businesses with a voice at the SBA.

Accordingly, we write to seek additional information about this decision.

1). Could you explain why Ms. Bagshaw's and Ms. Florio's appointments were terminated early and what criteria the SBA used to reach this decision?

2). Was the SBA's decision-making process applied fairly to all existing members of these boards?

3). How did the SBA consult with local small businesses and SBDCs prior to making this decision?

4). Given this disruption in the small businesses' representation in federal policymaking, how does your administration plan to ensure small businesses can share input on SBDC operations and federal regulatory and enforcement actions that could have a significant impact on their businesses?

5). Can you commit to Congressional notification regarding SBA actions moving forward?

Again, we urge you to reverse course and allow Ms. Bagshaw and Ms. Florio to complete their service as planned. We look forward to your timely responses to the questions above and to working with you to support our nation's small business in the 119th Congress.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator

Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator

Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

April 30, 2025

The Honorable Roger Williams
Chairman
House Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nydia Velázquez
Ranking Member
House Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Williams and Ranking Member Velázquez:

On behalf of the National Small Business Association (NSBA)—the nation's oldest small business advocacy organization, representing our membership of more than 65,000 and the millions of owners and employees that comprise the U.S. small business sector—I am writing to express our strong endorsement of the recently reintroduced H.R.1163, the *Prove It Act of 2025*.

It is no secret that small companies frequently feel the impact of "red tape" to a greater extent than their large counterparts. As a result, the government is supposed to take robust action to prevent regulatory harm to small entities. Too often, however, regulators are able to pay lip service to their responsibilities to mitigate the impact of federal regulations on America's small businesses under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA). The *Prove It Act* helps ensure small businesses get the consideration they deserve during the regulatory process, and offers clarity as well as meaningful pathways for redress. This legislation, which passed the House last Congress on a bipartisan basis, would provide the government with essential tools to reduce regulatory harm to small businesses.

Currently, federal agencies undertaking rulemaking have the ability to self-certify whether their proposed regulation would have a broad impact on small entities under the RFA. Moreover, the RFA does not explicitly delineate what constitutes "significant" or "substantial," and SBA itself advises that "Some agencies have already developed criteria for determining whether a particular economic impact is significant. Standards must be flexible enough to work for the individual agency."[1] While certainly expedient for the rulemaking process, this latitude allows agencies broad discretion to determine that—in their sole view—small entities are not impacted.

In order to prevent damaging federal overreach, the *Prove It Act* specifically allows small businesses and their representative organizations, including groups like NSBA, to petition the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration (SBA) to intervene and review whether proposed federal regulations would have major economic effects on a significant number of small businesses. Critically, the legislation ensures that this vital work will be supported by rulemaking agencies, by exempting small entities from any rule under examination where the issuing agency fails to assist the Chief Counsel in their review.

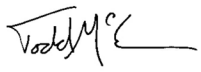
[1] https://advocacy.sba.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/How-to-Comply-with-the-RFA.pdf#page=37.

Importantly, the *Prove It Act* would also encourage federal agencies to ensure their rules remain fair, clear, and relevant over time, by empowering the Chief Counsel to throw out rules if the issuing agency fails to reevaluate their impact on small businesses within a ten-year period. These practices would go a long way to ensuring that regulators live up to their responsibilities outlined under the RFA.

I urge the Committee to favorably report H.R.1136, as well as other legislative efforts that would reduce regulatory barriers to Main Street competitiveness.

Thank you for your continued leadership in fostering an environment where small businesses can operate, invest, and grow, and look I forward to continuing to work with you as a partner in supporting the U.S. small business sector.

Sincerely,



Todd McCracken
President & CEO
National Small Business Association

April 26, 2025

The Honorable Roger Williams
Chairman
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nydia M. Velázquez
Ranking Member
2069 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Williams and Ranking Member Velázquez:

I am Todd Phillips, Assistant Professor of Legal Studies at Georgia State University's J. Mack Robinson College of Business and principal with the small business Phillips Policy Consulting, LLC.[1] I write to comment on two bills under consideration by the House Committee on Small Business.

H.R. 1163, The Prove It Act of 2025

The Prove It Act would unnecessarily elongate the rulemaking process, permit unnecessary litigation, and delay rules' effectiveness without consideration for the benefits small businesses receive from regulations.

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) currently requires agencies to conduct "regulatory flexibility analyses" alongside each notice-and-comment regulation that "describe the impact of the proposed rule on small entities"[2] unless agencies certify that the rule "will not, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities."[3] The Prove It Act would amend the RFA to permit small businesses, or any organization claiming to represent small businesses, to challenge agencies' certifications before the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration. If agencies fail to comply with the Chief Counsel's orders or participate in adjudicatory process at all, the rules would be invalidated as they pertain to small businesses. The Prove It Act would also require agencies to consider "reasonably foreseeable potential indirect costs" of their rules when conducting regulatory flexibility analyses and require agencies to conduct retrospective reviews of all rules not certified every ten years lest those rules be deemed unenforceable.

I oppose this bill for several reasons.

First, the Prove It Act would unnecessarily delay the rulemaking process by offering new avenues by which rules' opponents may litigate, including litigation over *initial* regulatory flexibility analyses for the first time. The RFA today only allows for judicial review of *final* regulatory flexibility analyses,[4] whereas this bill would permit appeals of both *initial* and *final* analyses to the Chief Counsel, as well as the Chief Counsel's decisions.

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[1] Affiliation provided for identification purposes only. Comments are my own and not of my employer.

[2] 5 U.S.C. § 603–04.

[3] *Id.* § 605(b).

[4] *See id.* § 611(a)(1) (providing for judicial review of section 604, which requires agencies to promulgate final regulatory flexibility analyses, but not section 603, which requires agencies to promulgate initial analyses).

Second, the Prove It Act ignores long-held principles of standing to allow trade associations to launder their complaints under the guise of helping small businesses. In the federal court, organizational standing is granted only to organizations that have at least one member who has itself been (or will be) harmed, and organizations who claim organizational standing must identify that member to the court.[5] This bill would allow "organization[s] representing the interests of small entities" to challenge agencies' regulatory flexibility analyses without requiring them to identify *which* small businesses they purport to represent or *how* those small businesses would be harmed by the rules they are challenging.

Third, the Prove It Act would effectively allow the Chief Counsel to order agencies to adopt its interpretation of rules' impacts on small businesses, lest their rules be invalidated as they apply to small businesses. The three considerations upon which the bill requires the Chief Counsel to base its analysis are ambiguous and give the Chief Counsel broad authority to pause rulemakings it does not like. For example, although the RFA does not define the term "small entity," requiring the Chief Counsel to consider "whether the agency … correctly determined which small entities will be affected by the proposed rule" simply allows the Chief Counsel to make a policy decision instead of the agency. Because appeals under the Prove It Act are of the Chief Counsel's decisions and not the agencies', courts will review the Chief Counsel's decision under the arbitrary and capricious standard and not the agencies' even if both are valid. Furthermore, since it is the *agency* that will be defending its analyses in court, it may be impossible for the agency to defend the Chief Counsel's determination under a legal standard that investigates the agency's thought processes.

Fourth, the Prove It Act would require the Administrator of OIRA to attend the meetings upon which the Chief Counsel makes its decisions and not the Administrator's delegates.[6] This requirement is unnecessarily burdensome on the Administrator, and OIRA would most likely direct agencies to accede to the Chief Counsel's determinations so as to avoid these meetings.

Fifth, the Prove It Act would unnecessarily increase White House oversight of independent regulatory agencies. The Act would require the OIRA Administrator to attend all meetings regarding appeals of regulatory flexibility analyses, including those of agencies for which OIRA plays no role. Failing to omit the Administrator from meetings regarding independent agencies' rules serves only to reduce those agencies' independence.

Sixth, the Prove It Act does not provide an appeals process allowing agencies to appeal the Chief Counsel's decisions. In other statutory schemes under which one agency may rule against another, statutes generally provide specific the appeals processes.[7] This bill seems to erroneously presume that only the private sector will appeal the Chief Counsel's decisions.

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[5] *See* Summers v. Earth Island Institute, 555 U.S. 488, 494 (2009) (providing that "organizations can assert the standing of their members" but rejecting standing where the organization could not identify a member with standing).

[6] *Compare* the bill's requirement that "representatives of the agency that promulgated the proposed rule" attend a meeting *with* the bill's requirement that "the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs" attend.

[7] *See, e.g.*, 29 U.S.C. § 660 (providing judicial review for appeals of decisions by the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission).

Seventh, in expanding the universe of effects agencies must consider in their regulatory impact analyses to include "reasonably foreseeable potential indirect costs," the Prove It Act gives courts broad latitude to retroactively impose analysis requirements on agencies that they cannot anticipate. Indirect costs are speculative and devoid of context if not also accompanied by consideration of direct and indirect benefits, and courts likely have different impressions of which indirect costs are reasonably foreseeable and may identify indirect costs agencies never considered. In the APA's notice-and-comment process, judicial review of agencies' considerations is limited to those facts arguments that commenters presented to agencies. Here, the Act would permit courts to strike down regulations for agencies' failure to consider costs never expected they would be required to consider.

Eighth, the Prove It Act's penalty for failing to conduct retrospective reviews is unnecessarily severe. Retrospective reviews can certainly be worthwhile, but deeming a rule invalid and unenforceable for failing to conduct an analysis by a set date may lead to catastrophic consequences. Agencies frequently face competing priorities, and—as the Supreme Court has noted—agency officials are "far better equipped" than others "to deal with the many variables involved in the proper ordering of [agency] priorities."[8] For example, the Federal Reserve may be facing a financial crisis at the time when its 10-year period has expired, and the American public would be better served by officials focusing on the larger crisis than conducting a retrospective review of its regulations, lest regulations promoting the stability of the financial system suddenly cease operation. Whereas the notice-and-comment process at least provides for good cause exceptions, the Prove It Act does not.[9]

Moreso, rules' invalidation would not just apply to the small businesses the retrospective reviews are meant to help, but *all* businesses. The Prove It Act is, perhaps, best thought of as a backdoor way of imposing retrospective review requirements that legislators have not been able to enact in Congresses past.

Ninth and finally, the Prove It Act provides no additional resources that would allow agencies or the Chief Counsel to comply with its new requirements.

H.R. 2965, The Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act

The Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act is a poorly drafted bill that would at best unnecessarily hamstring the Small Business Administration (SBA) and America's small businesses by restricting the ability for the Administration to operate its vital loan programs, and at worst would overwhelm the SBA in paperwork without additional funding. It would impose on the Small Business Administration a so-called "small business regulatory budget," defined as "the cost to a small business" of the Administration's rulemakings, of "not greater than zero." In addition, the Act would require the Chief Counsel for Advocacy to annually report to Congress the impacts the rules of other agencies have on small businesses.

I oppose this bill for several reasons.

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[8] Heckler v. Chaney, 470 U.S. 821, 831–832 (1985).

[9] *See* 5 U.S.C. § 553(b)(B).

First, the concept of a small business regulatory budget does not provide for the consideration of any benefits that may accrue to small businesses. It is already a practical violation of the Administrative Procedure Act for the SBA to enact regulations that are, on the whole, more burdensome than beneficial.[10] This Act would throw out this framework in favor of one that prohibits the SBA from enacting rules that impose any net costs on small businesses at all, no matter the benefits that they receive and even if the benefits significantly outweigh the costs. The concept of a regulatory budget that only takes into consideration costs is antithetical to the core principles of contemporary administrative law.

Second, this Act's definition of a small business regulatory budget is not the costs to *all* small businesses as a whole, but to "*a* small business."[11] If the SBA's rules in a given year would collectively decrease costs for small businesses but increase them on a single business, this bill could be read as prohibiting those rules from being enacted. To that end, this Act could overwhelm the SBA with paperwork in an effort to ensure that no single small business in America is subject to increased net costs as a result of its rules.

Third, and perhaps most importantly, the Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act could have the effect of stymying the programs the SBA is most known for—its 7(a) and other loan programs that help small businesses recover from natural disasters or compete effectively against larger rivals. In many instances, the SBA does not make these loans itself, but instead relies on banks and other financial institutions, with SBA only guaranteeing to purchase a portion of these loans if the borrowers default.[12] It is these lenders who evaluate, process, close, disburse, and service the SBA's loans. Although lenders of all sizes may qualify, community banks and credit unions—which are themselves small businesses[13]—account for a disproportionate share of lenders. According to a researcher at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, banks with less than $10 billion in assets constitute roughly 5% of banking assets but make over 30% of all small business loans.[14] During the COVID-19 crisis, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation reports

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[10] *See* Michigan v. EPA, 576 U.S. 743, 752 (2015) ("One would not say that it is even rational, never mind 'appropriate,' to impose billions of dollars in economic costs in return for a few dollars in health or environmental benefits."); Allentown Mack Sales & Serv., Inc. v. N.L.R.B., 522 U.S. 359, 374 (1998) (explaining that "the process by which [an agency] [its] result must be logical and rational.").

[11] Emphasis added.

[12] *See Become an SBA Lender*, Small Business Administration (last accessed Apr. 20, 2025), https://www.sba.gov/partners/lenders/become-sba-lender ("SBA will purchase the guaranteed portion of a loan if a borrower defaults."); *7(a) loans*, Small Business Administration, (last accessed Apr. 20, 2025), https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/7a-loans (explaining that borrowers "will always work directly with your lender and not with SBA").

[13] The term "small business concern" is defined in part as a business that "is independently owned and operated and which is not dominant in its field of operation." 15 U.S.C. § 632(a)(1). According to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, community banks are "more likely to be privately owned and locally controlled than larger banks." FDIC, COMMUNITY BANKING STUDY 1-1 (2012).

[14] Eldar Beiseitov, *Small Banks, Big Impact: Community Banks and Their Role in Small Business Lending*, REGIONAL ECONOMIST (October 20, 2023), https://www.stlouisfed.org/publications/regional-economist/2023/oct/small-banks-big-impact-community-banks-small-business-lending.

that community banks provided 31% of Paycheck Protection Program loans operated by the SBA.[15]

To that end, all regulations written by the SBA to govern its loan programs impose costs on this subset of small businesses, even though the rules' benefits far outweigh their costs and participation is voluntarily undertaken by participating lenders.[16] As the Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act would not allow for the consideration of benefits and could prohibit rules from being enacted that overall increase costs on particular small businesses, it could have the effect of prohibiting rules governing its loan programs from being enacted, or could require SBA to prohibit community banks from serving as participating lenders. Either consequence would have the result of fundamentally weakening the loan programs on which small businesses nationwide rely.

Finally, this Act would provide the Chief Counsel of Advocacy with no additional resources with which to comply with its new, extensive reporting requirements. Requiring the Chief Counsel to annually report on the impacts of all regulations promulgated government-wide would be a significant undertaking that would come at the expense of its other responsibilities.

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In sum, these bills are solutions in search of problems that would result in governmental inefficiencies if enacted. Moreover, the Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act could harm small businesses that serve as lenders for the SBA's loan programs in the process. I encourage members of the Small Business Committee to oppose these bills.

Sincerely,

Todd Phillips

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[15] *The Importance of Community Banks in Paycheck Protection Program Lending*, 14 FDIC Quarterly 31 (2020), https://www.fdic.gov/analysis/quarterly-banking-profile/fdic-quarterly/2020-vol14-4/article1.pdf.

[16] *See* 13 C.F.R. Part 120 (regulating SBA's business loan programs); *id*. Part 123 (regulating SBA's disaster loan programs).



February 20, 2025

The Honorable Brad Finstad
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harriet Hageman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nathaniel Moran
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear U.S. Representatives Finstad, Hageman and Moran:

Burdensome federal regulation and an unaccountable regulatory system have long been concerns of entrepreneurs and small business owners. The Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council (SBE Council) is pleased that you have introduced legislation that will make the system more accountable to our nation's small business owners. The Prove It Act strengthens the voice of business owners in the rulemaking process and provides needed accountability measures that protect small firms from costly regulation. SBE Council strongly supports the legislation.

In the previous administration, federal regulators across government regularly overlooked required procedures to protect small businesses from excessive and costly regulation. In fact, by the end of his term in office, regulators under President Biden imposed a conservative $1.8 trillion in regulatory costs on the economy and private sector – the most of any administration on record. This can never happen again.

The Prove It Act requires that federal agencies clearly demonstrate that they are complying with existing laws meant to protect small businesses. Importantly, the bill requires an analysis of both the direct and indirect costs of proposed rules. Small business owners are provided recourse if they believe regulatory procedures have not been followed. If proven that the government has not been compliant in following required procedures, small businesses will be exempt from the new regulation.

Under the Prove It Act, small business owners are provided meaningful input regarding the effect and outcome of proposed rules. Their voice and views are critical in making sure federal regulators do not overreach, and that proposals address solutions in a reasonable manner. In addition, guidance from the agencies must be easily accessed online along with assistance if small business owners have questions or concerns.

The Prove It Act is a common-sense bill that should garner the support of every member of Congress. Thank you for your strong leadership and collaboration, and please let SBE Council know how we can support your efforts in advancing this important legislation into law.

Sincerely,



Karen Kerrigan
President & CEO

Protecting Small Business, Promoting Entrepreneurship

800 Connecticut Ave. NW • Suite 300 • Washington, D.C. 20006 • (703)-242-5840

www.sbecouncil.org

SBE COUNCIL
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council

April 28, 2025

The Honorable Beth Van Duyne
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Van Duyne:

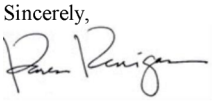
On behalf of the Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council (SBE Council), I am writing to express strong support for the "Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act" (H.R. 2965). As you well know, the cost of federal regulation exceeds $2 trillion dollars and unfairly burdens small businesses. The federal government must get a handle on this massive regulatory mess, and H.R. 2965 is an important solution that will bring accountability and change to federal government rulemaking.

H.R. 2965 directs the SBA Administrator to quantify and monitor regulatory costs on small businesses. As proposed within the legislation, the annual "small business regulatory budget" will not increase beyond zero. Consistently quantifying costs throughout the year will help the federal regulatory system stay in check, which means small businesses are better protected and shielded from the excess of cumulative regulatory costs. The legislation also requires the SBA Office of Advocacy to annually report to Congress on federal regulations that have on impact on small businesses.

In a survey conducted by SBE Council, 88 percent of small business owners said that the new administration must prioritize reducing regulatory burdens. H.R. 2965 is a solution that will help to accomplish this task. Every member of Congress needs to support this common-sense approach that will help our nation's small businesses more effectively compete, grow and succeed.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,



Karen Kerrigan
President & CEO

Protecting Small Business, Promoting Entrepreneurship

800 Connecticut Ave. NW ● Suite 300 ● Washington, D.C. 20006 ● (703)-242-5840

www.sbecouncil.org

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

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April 29, 2025

The Honorable Roger Williams
Chairman
Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nydia Velazquez
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Williams and Ranking Member Velazquez:

Thank you for holding a markup on H.R. 1163, the Prove It Act of 2025, legislation intended to reduce the federal regulatory burden that disproportionately harms small businesses.

The leaders of the Small Business Council at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce have endorsed the Prove It Act. Council Chair, Joe Shamess, a general partner of Flintlock Capital, an early-stage venture firm based in McLean, Virginia, wrote the Committee last September to explain how the Prove It Act would help small businesses. He based his endorsement on his experience founding three businesses, including Flags of Valor in Winchester, Virginia, combined with his current role leading and funding founders who are pursuing transformational technologies.[1] Council Vice-Chair, Traci Tapani, is Co-President of Wyoming Machine in Stacy, Minnesota, a family-owned company that specializes in sheet metal fabrication and offers a variety of services to corporate clients from laser cutting to welding. Traci provided a letter for the record following your committee's hearing last year in which she endorsed the

[1] U.S. Chamber of Commerce, *Letter in support of H.R. 7198 (September 10, 2024),* viewable at: https://www.uschamber.com/small-business/hill-letter-on-markup-of-h-r-7198-prove-it-act-of-2024-in-the-house-committee-on-small-business.

Prove It Act [2] and shared a letter of support for the Prove It Act signed by more than 250 local and state chambers of commerce.[3]

The Chamber's 2016 work with the Bradley Foundation showed that federal regulatory compliance costs that year totaled $1.1 trillion industry wide and that small businesses shouldered a compliance cost of twenty percent more per employee than their larger business competitors. More recently, the Metlife & U.S. Chamber of Commerce Small Business Index revealed that almost half of small business owners believe they spend too much time and money navigating regulatory requirements and that red tape is stifling their ability to grow.[4]

Attempts to reduce the disproportionate burden federal regulations impose on small firms are not new to the Small Business Committee. Not only did you successfully report out the Prove It Act last year which led to its passage by the U.S. House of Representatives, your committee led the way for passage of the "Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) forty-four years ago. That law required regulators to tailor rules and meet government objectives while minimizing the burden on small businesses. Leveling the playing field and reducing regulatory costs allow for small business owners to reinvest more money in their employees, grow their businesses, and contribute even more to their communities.

Under your leadership, the Small Business Committee has explored the challenges small businesses face when confronting one-size-fits-all federal regulation. The Chamber supports your efforts and is pleased you are marking up H.R. 1163, the Prove It Act of 2025. The legislation, authored by Representative Brad Finstad, would strengthen the RFA by updating the "certification" requirements in the law to ensure federal agencies take small business input seriously, and by requiring

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[2] U.S. Chamber of Commerce, *Letter for the Record for the U.S. House of Represenatives Small Business Committee Hearing entitled, "Burdensome Regulations: Examining the Biden Administration's Failure to Consider Small Bsuinesses" (May 22, 2024)*, viewable at: https://www.uschamber.com/small-business/statement-for-the-record-traci-tapani-for-the-hearing-burdensome-regulations-examining-the-biden-administrations-failure-to-consider-small-businesses.

[3] U.S. Chamber of Commerce, *local and state chambers of commerce coalition letter in support of the Prove It Act (May 21, 2024)*, viewable at: https://www.uschamber.com/small-business/state-and-local-chamber-letter-on-house-consideration-of-h-r-7198-the-prove-it-act .

[4] *See* MetLife & U.S. Chamber of Commerce Small Business Index for Q4 of 2024 (December 16, 2024), viewable at: https://www.uschamber.com/sbindex/2024-Q4 .

federal agencies to be transparent about costs by including all reasonably foreseeable impacts in the analysis released to the public for comment.

We urge the Committee to favorably report H.R. 1163. The Chamber looks forward to seeing this legislation enacted to help small businesses across the country.

Sincerely,



Thomas M. Sullivan
Senior Vice President
Small Business Policy
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

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https://www.wsj.com/economy/trade/smallest-businesses-are-biggest-losers-in-global-tariff-war-f4df62d5

ECONOMY | TRADE

Small Sellers of Fireworks, Ski Apparel and Other Imports Can't Escape Tariff War

Small companies account for one-third of U.S. imports; many owners say they can't absorb price hikes or shift production

By Ruth Simon Follow

Updated April 11, 2025 1:17 pm ET



Imperial Design & Display is budgeting for a sales decline of as much as 20% this year if uncertainty persists. PHOTO: CARROLL SHIPMAN

Key Points

What's This?

- Small businesses face challenges due to Trump's tariffs, lacking the leverage of larger companies.
- Some small businesses may close or halt production, impacting new business formation and the economy.

- Businesses are exploring options including lawsuits to cope with rising costs.

Businesses of all sizes are struggling with President Trump's new tariff regime, but small U.S. businesses are looking to be the biggest losers.

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Small and midsize companies account for $868 billion, or roughly one-third, of annual U.S. imports, according to the Census Bureau. And while they are dwarfed by global giants like Apple and Nike, these businesses also rely on overseas factories and Chinese goods that still carry steep tariffs.

Joe Fox has decided not to open his seasonal fireworks store in Leslie, Mich., this year. "The whole decision was tariff based," said Fox, who sold fireworks imported from China. "We didn't want to get into something that would pass along a ton of costs to consumers," he said. "We are closing for the foreseeable future until this is sorted out."

Trump's tariff plan has unnerved the stock and bond markets and prompted some big companies to rethink production and prices. But the sudden shifts and repeated stops and starts in Trump's trade policy are roiling small businesses, which typically don't have the same leverage to negotiate with suppliers or large cash cushions.

"I don't think they understand that a lot of little businesses are going to go away," said Richard Leffler, president of Nils Skiwear, an apparel company in Garden Grove, Calif. His business isn't likely to have the cash needed to cover tariffs on orders placed in early February that are slated to arrive in mid-August for ski season.

"It's not looking very good," Leffler said. He is weighing whether to pull the plug on production and cut his losses, or continue operating in the hope that tariffs will be reduced before his apparel from China reaches the U.S. in late summer.



Backpack-maker Day Owl says it will have to raise prices. PHOTO: DAY OWL

Trump has said the new tariffs will spur more manufacturing in the U.S. and boost the economy.

Nearly two-thirds of small businesses said in a March survey that tariffs and other trade issues would hurt their businesses, according to a survey conducted for The Wall Street Journal by Vistage Worldwide. Just 8% said they would benefit from tariffs, according to Vistage, a business-coaching and peer advisory firm.

Day Owl, a small seller of backpacks made from recycled bottles, will have to boost the price of a bag that now sells for $155 to $210 to stay profitable if Trump's reciprocal tariffs are reinstated, said Ian Rosenberger, chief executive of the roughly 10-person company.

Rosenberger asked his agent in Vietnam to pause production last week when Trump first announced the reciprocal tariffs. He sent a second email Wednesday after the president hit the brakes, asking the agent to move as much inventory to the U.S. as possible during the 90-day pause.

"We didn't get a resolution yesterday. We got a pause," he said. "It's very difficult to know what is going to happen the next day, let alone the next 90 days."

Some businesses are turning to the courts for relief. Simplified, a small Florida company that specializes in appointment planners made from imported Chinese material, filed a lawsuit challenging Trump's authority to impose the tariffs.

Tariffs are a big problem for Sattwa Chai, a Minneapolis chai brewery with three employees. It imports cinnamon, cloves and other spices from across the globe. "We can't suddenly build a spice farm in the United States," said owner Janie Geyen, whose customers include coffee shops and coffee roasters.

The company doesn't have the working capital or space to store large volumes of ingredients. Geyen has struggled to find a U.S. supplier for the packaging it currently imports from China.

Small businesses are at a disadvantage when seeking U.S. supplies in a time of turmoil. "The big companies just swoop in and buy all of it and that creates huge issues for us," Geyen said.



Thread Wallets, in Provo, Utah, is about to test how much it can raise prices without denting sales.
PHOTO: THREAD

Sales are already slowing in response to tariff fears and economic uncertainty, some business owners say.

Imperial Design & Display, a 35-person maker of retail displays in Minneapolis, is budgeting for a 10%-to-20% decrease in sales this year, assuming the current level of uncertainty remains.

"We were so busy up until the first week of January and then it just really fell off a cliff," said Imperial's owner, Carroll Shipman. Tariffs have boosted both the prices of raw materials used to make displays in the U.S. and the cost of displays Imperial imports from Vietnam and Taiwan.

Imperial must pay the higher tariffs within days after the goods arrive, but typically it doesn't collect payment from customers until 30 to 60 days after delivery. "It comes out of working capital we use for new equipment or new employees or adding to payroll," Shipman said. The company isn't filling open positions and has cut the second-shift hours by half.

Thread Wallets, a Provo, Utah, accessories company with five retail locations, is about to test how much it can raise prices without denting sales.

"When to raise prices, how to raise prices, there is just more uncertainty than there was earlier the week," said finance chief Ryan King. Even under Trump's revised tariff plan, King estimates the company will pay an extra $250,000 this year. It currently produces one-third of its goods in China, one-third in Cambodia and one-third in Vietnam.



Imperial Design & Display imports materials for display cases that it manufactures in the U.S. PHOTO: CARROLL SHIPMAN

When a big retailer placed a new order for the coming holiday season, Thread Wallets was unable to set a price. "That's simply because of the fluidity of these tariffs," King said.

Rosenberger of Day Owl, the backpack company, said his Vietnamese production agent has told him that the company would still be on the hook for the cost of materials if it cancels the order now in production. He has called some customers to warn them about price increases.

He figures the ripple effect of Trump's tariff moves could last at least a year even if the tariffs go away. "In the White House, it might feel like 30 days or 60 days and we will be liberated," he said. "It doesn't feel very liberating for small business."

Write to Ruth Simon at Ruth.Simon@wsj.com

We Want to Hear From You

How are tariffs impacting you? How are they impacting the business you own or work for?*

Are you making any changes in your savings or investments plans because of tariffs? Are you making any changes in your spending? Please tell us about the choices you have made and why.*

Is the business you own or work for making an any changes in its spending, hiring or investments plans? Is it making changes in pricing or sourcing? Please tell us what's happening and why.*

Name*

Email*

Where do you live? (City, State)*

SUBMIT

By submitting your response to this questionnaire, you consent to Dow Jones processing your special categories of personal information and are indicating that your answers may be investigated and published by The Wall Street Journal and you are willing to be contacted by a Journal reporter to discuss your answers further. In an article on this subject, the Journal will not attribute your answers to you by name unless a reporter contacts you and you provide that consent.

Appeared in the April 14, 2025, print edition as 'Smallest Businesses Hit Worst by Tariffs'.

Videos

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	11	15

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 2968

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative Conaway

Result?	Agreed To: [ ]		
	Not Agreed To: [X]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	8

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	**11**	**15**

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 2968

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative Velazquez

Result?	Agreed To: [ ] Not Agreed To: [X] Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	9

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)	X	
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)	X	
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)	X	
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)	X	
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)	X	
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)	X	
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)	X	
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)	X	
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)	X	
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)	X	
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)	X	
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)	X	
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)	X	
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)	X	
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		X
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		X
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		X
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		X
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		X
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		X
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		X
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		X
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		X
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		X
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		X
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)	X	
	TOTALS	15	11

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: H.R. 2968 Business Over Ballots Act (As Amended)

Result?	Agreed To: [X]		
	Not Agreed To: [ ]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	15	11	

FC Vote #	10

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	**11**	**15**

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 2027

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative Conaway

Result?	Agreed To: [ ]		
	Not Agreed To: [X]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	11

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	**11**	**15**

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 2027

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative McIver

Result?	Agreed To: [ ] Not Agreed To: [X] Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	12

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	**11**	**15**

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 2027

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative Morrison

Result?	Agreed To: [ ]		
	Not Agreed To: [X]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	13

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	**11**	**15**

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 2027

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative McIver

Result?	Agreed To: [ ]		
	Not Agreed To: [X]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	12

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)	X	
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)	X	
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)	X	
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)	X	
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)	X	
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)	X	
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)	X	
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)	X	
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)	X	
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)	X	
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)	X	
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)	X	
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)	X	
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)	X	
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		X
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		X
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		X
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		X
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		X
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		X
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		X
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		X
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		X
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		X
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		X
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)	X	
	TOTALS	**15**	**11**

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: H.R. 2027 Returning SBA to Main Street Act (As Amended)

Result?	Agreed To: [X]		
	Not Agreed To: [ ]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	15	11	

FC Vote #	15

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)	X	
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)	X	
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)	X	
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)	X	
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)	X	
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)	X	
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)	X	
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)	X	
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)	X	
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)	X	
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)	X	
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)	X	
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)	X	
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)	X	
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		X
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		X
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		X
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		X
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		X
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		X
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		X
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		X
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		X
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		X
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		X
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)	X	
	TOTALS	15	11

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: H.R. 2966 American Entrepreneurs First Act (As Amended)

Result?	Agreed To: [X]		
	Not Agreed To: [ ]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	15	11	

FC Vote #	16

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	11	15

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 2931

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative Cisneros

Result?	Agreed To: [ ] Not Agreed To: [X] Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	17

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	11	15

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 2931

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative Velazquez

Result?	Agreed To: [ ] Not Agreed To: [X] Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	18

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)	X	
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)	X	
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)	X	
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)	X	
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)	X	
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)	X	
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)	X	
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)	X	
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)	X	
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)	X	
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)	X	
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)	X	
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)	X	
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)	X	
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		X
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		X
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		X
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		X
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		X
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		X
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		X
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		X
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		X
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		X
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		X
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)	X	
	TOTALS	**15**	**11**

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: H.R. 2931 Save SBA from Sanctuary Cities Act (As Amended)

Result?	Agreed To: [X]		
	Not Agreed To: [ ]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	15	11	

FC Vote #	19

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)	X	
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)	X	
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)	X	
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)	X	
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)	X	
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)	X	
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)	X	
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)	X	
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)	X	
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)	X	
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)	X	
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)	X	
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)	X	
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)	X	
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		X
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		X
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		X
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		X
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		X
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		X
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		X
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		X
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		X
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		X
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		X
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)	X	
	TOTALS	**15**	**11**

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: H.R. 2987 Capping Excessive Awarding of SBLC Entrants (CEASE) Act (As Amended)

Result?	Agreed To: [X]		
	Not Agreed To: [ ]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	15	11	

FC Vote #	20

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	11	15

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 2965

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative Olszewski

Result?	Agreed To: [ ] Not Agreed To: [X] Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	21

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	**11**	**15**

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 2965

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative Morrison

Result?	Agreed To: [ ]		
	Not Agreed To: [X]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	22

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)	X	
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)	X	
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)	X	
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)	X	
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)	X	
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)	X	
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)	X	
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)	X	
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)	X	
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)	X	
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)	X	
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)	X	
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)	X	
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)	X	
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		X
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		X
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		X
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		X
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		X
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		X
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		X
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		X
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		X
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		X
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		X
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)	X	
	TOTALS	**15**	**11**

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: H.R. 2965 Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act of 2025 (As Amended)

Result?	Agreed To: [X]		
	Not Agreed To: [ ]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	15	11	

FC Vote #	23

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	11	15

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 1163

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative Goodlander

Result?	Agreed To: [ ] Not Agreed To: [X] Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	24

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	11	15

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 1163

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative McGarvey

Result?	Agreed To: [ ]		
	Not Agreed To: [X]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	25

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	11	15

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 1163

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative Velazquez

Result?	Agreed To: [ ]		
	Not Agreed To: [X]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	26

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		X
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		X
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		X
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		X
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		X
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		X
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		X
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		X
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		X
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		X
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		X
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		X
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		X
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		X
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		X
	TOTALS	11	15

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: Amendment to the ANS to H.R. 1163

Amendment #: 1

Offered By: Representative Olszewski

Result?	Agreed To: [ ] Not Agreed To: [X] Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	11	15	

FC Vote #	27

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)	X	
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)	X	
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)	X	
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)	X	
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)	X	
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)	X	
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)	X	
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)	X	
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)	X	
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)	X	
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)	X	
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)	X	
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)	X	
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)	X	
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		X
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		X
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		X
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		X
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		X
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		X
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		X
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		X
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		X
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		X
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		X
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)	X	
	TOTALS	**15**	**11**

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: H.R. 1163 Prove It Act of 2025 (As Amended)

Result?	Agreed To: [X] Not Agreed To: [ ] Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
	15	11	

FC Vote #	28

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)		
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)		
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)		
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)		
	Mr. LaLota (NY-01)		
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)		
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)		
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)		
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)		
	Mr. Downing (MT-02)		
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)		
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)		
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)		
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)		
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)		
	Mrs. McIver (NJ-10)		
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)		
	Dr. Morrison (MN-03)		
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)		
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)		
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)		
	Dr. Olszewski (MD-02)		
	Dr. Conaway (NJ-03)		
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)		
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)		
	TOTALS		

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*First Session*)

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Measure: ANS to H.R. 2966

Result?	Agreed To: [X]		
	Not Agreed To: [ ]		
	Withdrawn: [ ]		
Voice Vote	*Ayes*	*Nays*	*Present*
X			

FC Vote #	3