

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1309

To modify the definition of disaster in the Small Business Act to include low or no snowfall amounts, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 4, 2025

Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

A BILL

To modify the definition of disaster in the Small Business Act to include low or no snowfall amounts, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Winter Recreation
5 Small Business Recovery Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) According to the American Meteorology So-
9 ciety Glossary of Meteorology, snow drought occurs

1 when there is a period of abnormally low snowpack
2 for the time of year.

3 (2) Snow drought is described as either dry or
4 warm, depending on whether the drought is a result
5 of below-normal cold-season precipitation or a lack
6 of snow accumulation despite near-normal precipita-
7 tion, usually as a result of warm temperatures that
8 cause precipitation to fall as rain rather than snow
9 or an unusually early snowmelt.

10 **SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF DISASTER.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3(k)(2) of the Small Busi-
12 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 632(k)(2)) is amended—

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

15 (2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period
16 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

17 (3) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(D) snow drought.”.

19 (b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the
20 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the
21 Small Business Administration, in consultation with the
22 Director of the National Weather Service, shall promul-
23 gate rules to implement the amendment made by sub-
24 section (a).

1 (c) REVIEW OF EXISTING RESOURCES AND WAYS TO
2 ADAPT.—

3 (1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
4 “small business concern” has the meaning given the
5 term in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15
6 U.S.C. 632).

7 (2) INTERAGENCY REVIEW.—The Comptroller
8 General of the United States shall submit to Con-
9 gress a report—

10 (A) providing a review of resources avail-
11 able to Federal agencies to assist small business
12 concerns that have suffered economic injury or
13 been economically impacted by lack of snow or
14 low snow precipitation;

15 (B) identifying ways small business con-
16 cerns can become more resilient and adapt the
17 business model of the concerns related to snow
18 droughts; and

19 (C) providing recommendations for legisla-
20 tive and administrative action to provide assist-
21 ance to small business concerns impacted by
22 lack of snow or low snow precipitation, includ-
23 ing an evaluation of the capabilities of the
24 Small Business Administration to support ex-
25 panded disaster recovery efforts related to a

- 1 lack of snow or low snow precipitation and
- 2 other similar tasks through the Economic In-
- 3 jury Disaster Loan program.

