

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1698

To amend the Small Business Disaster Response and Loan Improvements Act of 2008 to require the Small Business Administration to coordinate with resource partners with respect to disaster planning activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 8, 2025

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Disaster Response and Loan Improvements Act of 2008 to require the Small Business Administration to coordinate with resource partners with respect to disaster planning activities, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Small Business Dis-
5 aster Coordination Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COORDINATION IN DISASTER RESPONSE AND DIS-**
 2 **ASTER PLANNING.**

3 (a) **DISASTER RESPONSE COORDINATION.**—The
 4 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

5 (1) in section 4 (15 U.S.C. 633), by adding at
 6 the end the following:

7 “(i) **DISASTER RECOVERY ASSISTANCE FROM RE-**
 8 **SOURCE PARTNERS.**—

9 “(1) **AUTHORIZATION.**—At the discretion of the
 10 Administrator, the Administrator may authorize a
 11 resource partner of the Administration to provide
 12 advice, information, and assistance to a small busi-
 13 ness concern located outside of the area of service in
 14 which that resource partner provides services, with-
 15 out regard to geographic proximity to that resource
 16 partner, if—

17 “(A) the small business concern is located
 18 in an area with respect to which loans under
 19 section 7(b)(2) may be made; and

20 “(B) in providing that advice, information,
 21 and assistance, the resource partner coordinates
 22 with another resource partner that serves the
 23 area in which the small business concern is lo-
 24 cated.

25 “(2) **PERIOD OF ASSISTANCE.**—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A resource partner of
2 the Administration may provide advice, infor-
3 mation, and assistance to a small business con-
4 cern under paragraph (1) for a period of not
5 more than 2 years after the date on which the
6 applicable disaster has been determined to exist.

7 “(B) EXTENSION.—The Administrator
8 may, at the discretion of the Administrator, ex-
9 tend the period described in subparagraph (A).

10 “(3) CONTINUITY OF SERVICES.—A resource
11 partner of the Administration that provides coun-
12 selors to an area pursuant to an authorization under
13 paragraph (1) shall, to the maximum extent prac-
14 ticable, ensure continuity of services in any area of
15 service in which that resource partner otherwise pro-
16 vides services.

17 “(4) SITES AND FACILITIES.—For purposes of
18 this subsection, the Administrator shall, to the max-
19 imum extent practicable, permit the personnel of a
20 resource partner of the Administration to use any
21 site or facility designated by the Administrator for
22 use to provide disaster recovery assistance.”;

23 (2) in section 7(b)(5) (15 U.S.C. 636(b)(5))—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (G) as clauses (i) through (vii), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(B) by striking “If a disaster” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If a disaster”;

(C) in subparagraph (A), as so redesignated—

(i) in clause (vi), as so redesignated, by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in clause (vii), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(viii) links to websites of resource partners of the Administration.”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO RESOURCE PARTNERS.—In carrying out subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall make all information communicated under that subparagraph available to resource partners of the Administration so that those resource partners can assist in amplifying public awareness regarding

1 relevant information needed by disaster loan ap-
 2 plicants.”; and

3 (3) by amending section 40(a)(2)(D) (15
 4 U.S.C. 657l(a)(2)(D)) to read as follows:

5 “(D) guidelines pursuant to which the Ad-
 6 ministration will coordinate with other Federal
 7 agencies, State, local, and regional authorities,
 8 and resource partners of the Administration to
 9 best respond to the demand described in sub-
 10 paragraph (B) and to best use the resources de-
 11 scribed in that subparagraph.”.

12 (b) DISASTER PLANNING COORDINATION.—Section
 13 12073(c) of the Small Business Disaster Response and
 14 Loan Improvements Act of 2008 (15 U.S.C. 636h(c)) is
 15 amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the
 17 end;

18 (2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-
 19 graph (4); and

20 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
 21 lowing:

22 “(3) resource partners of the Administration;
 23 and”.

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