

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3417

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the disbursement process for certain small business loans, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 10, 2025

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

A BILL

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the disbursement process for certain small business loans, 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 “Main Street Lending
5 Improvement Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. DISBURSEMENT PROCESS FOR CERTAIN SMALL**
7 **BUSINESS LOANS.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) APPALACHIAN REGION.—The term “Appa-
 2 lachian region” has the meaning given such term by
 3 section 14102(a) of title 40, United States Code.

4 (2) COVERED REGION.—The term “covered re-
 5 gion” means a region of the Administration that in-
 6 cludes any part of the Appalachian region.

7 (3) REGION OF THE ADMINISTRATION.—The
 8 term “region of the Administration” has the mean-
 9 ing given such term in section 3 of the Small Busi-
 10 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

11 (4) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—The term
 12 “small business concern” has the meaning given
 13 such term under section 3 of the Small Business Act
 14 (15 U.S.C. 632(a)).

15 (5) SMALL BUSINESS LOAN.—The term “small
 16 business loan” means a loan made under title V of
 17 the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15
 18 U.S.C. 695 et seq.), section 7(a) of the Small Busi-
 19 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)), or section 7(m) of the
 20 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)), except that
 21 such term excludes any loan made under a program
 22 established in response to the COVID–19 pandemic.

23 (b) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United
 24 States shall conduct a study on the disbursement process
 25 for small business loans.

1 (c) CONTENTS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—In conducting the study
3 under subsection (b), the Comptroller General shall
4 determine for each year during the period beginning
5 on January 1, 2021, and ending on December 31,
6 2024, for each covered region, the measures de-
7 scribed in paragraph (2).

8 (2) MEASURES DESCRIBED.—The measures de-
9 scribed in this paragraph with respect to a covered
10 region are, for each of the portion of such covered
11 region that is part of the Appalachian region and
12 the portion of such covered region that is not part
13 of the Appalachian region—

14 (A) the average length of time—

15 (i) between the submission of an ap-
16 plication for a small business loan by a
17 small business concern for which the prin-
18 cipal place of business is located in such
19 portion and when funds are disbursed with
20 respect to such application; and

21 (ii) to complete each step of the appli-
22 cation and disbursement process for small
23 business loans for small business concerns
24 for which the principal place of business is
25 located in such portion;

1 (B) the number that is equal to the prod-
2 uct of—

3 (i) the number of small business loans
4 disbursed to small business concerns for
5 which the principal place of business is lo-
6 cated in such portion divided by the total
7 number of small business concerns for
8 which the principal place of business is lo-
9 cated in such portion; and

10 (ii) 1000;

11 (C) the number that is equal to the prod-
12 uct of—

13 (i) the number of small business loans
14 approved for small business concerns for
15 which the principal place of business is lo-
16 cated in such portion divided by the total
17 number of small business concerns for
18 which the principal place of business is lo-
19 cated in such portion; and

20 (ii) 1000;

21 (D) the average and median dollar amount
22 of small business loans disbursed to small busi-
23 ness concerns for which the principal place of
24 business is located in such portion; and

1 (E) the number that is equal to the prod-
 2 uct of—

3 (i) the aggregate dollar amount of all
 4 small business loans disbursed to small
 5 business concerns for which the principal
 6 place of business is located in such portion
 7 divided by the total number of small busi-
 8 ness concerns for which the principal place
 9 of business is located in such portion; and
 10 (ii) 1000.

11 (d) BRIEFING AND REPORT.—

12 (1) INTERIM BRIEFING.—Not later than 1 year
 13 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comp-
 14 troller General shall provide to Congress a briefing
 15 on the progress of the study required by subsection
 16 (b).

17 (2) REPORT.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years
 19 after the date of enactment of this Act, the
 20 Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a
 21 report containing the results of the study re-
 22 quired by subsection (b).

23 (B) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The report re-
 24 quired by subparagraph (A) shall include rec-
 25 ommendations of the Comptroller General for

changes to the small business loan disbursement process to—

(i) increase accessibility of small business loans;

(ii) decrease the average length of time from when an application for a small business loan is submitted to when funds are disbursed with respect to such application;

(iii) increase the availability of information to an applicant for a small business loan regarding the status of the application of such applicant, including if any additional information is needed from the applicant to continue processing the application of such applicant and an estimate of the length of time until the funds with respect to such application will be disbursed; and

(iv) identify mechanisms and processes internal to the agencies involved in making small business loans that can be changed to reduce inefficiencies of the Gov-

- 1 ernment with respect to the processing of
- 2 applications for small business loans.

