

earlier today: S. Res. 804, S. Res. 805, S. Res. 806, and S. Res. 807.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, that the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

APPOINTMENTS

PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to provisions of Public Law 110-315, announces the re-appointment of the following individual to be a member of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity: Dr. Claude Pressnell, of Tennessee.

The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117-140, appoints the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture: Kevin Kim, of New York; Joanne Kwong, of New York.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 278, S. 1617.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1617) to modify the requirements for the Administrator of the Small Business Administration relating to declaring a disaster in a rural area, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Disaster Assistance for Rural Communities Act".

SEC. 2. DISASTER DECLARATION IN RURAL AREAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (15) the following:

"(16) DISASTER DECLARATION IN RURAL AREAS.—

"(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph—

"(i) the term 'rural area' means any county or other political subdivision of a State, the District of Columbia, or a territory or possession of the United States that is designated as a rural area by the Bureau of the Census; and

"(ii) the term 'significant damage' means, with respect to property, uninsured losses of not

less than 40 percent of the estimated fair replacement value or pre-disaster fair market value of the damaged property, whichever is lower.

"(B) DISASTER DECLARATION.—For the purpose of making loans under paragraph (1) or (2), the Administrator may declare a disaster in a rural area for which a major disaster was declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) and for which individual assistance was not authorized under section 408 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) if—

"(i) the Governor of the State or the Chief Executive of the Indian tribal government in which the rural area is located requests such a declaration; and

"(ii) any home, small business concern, private nonprofit organization, or small agricultural cooperative has incurred significant damage in the rural area.

"(C) SBA REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, and every year thereafter, 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 on, with respect to the 1-year period preceding submission of the report—

"(i) any economic injury that resulted from a major disaster declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) in a rural area;

"(ii) each request for assistance made by the Governor of a State or the Chief Executive of an Indian tribal government under subparagraph (B)(i) and the response of the Administrator, including the timeline for each response; and

"(iii) any regulatory changes that will impact the ability of communities in rural areas to obtain disaster assistance under this subsection."

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue regulations to carry out the amendment made by subsection (a).

(c) GAO REPORT.—

(1) DEFINITION OF RURAL AREA.—In this subsection, the term "rural area" means any county or other political subdivision of a State, the District of Columbia, or a territory or possession of the United States that is designated as a rural area by the Bureau of the Census.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States 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 on—

(A) any unique challenges that communities in rural areas face compared to communities in urbanized areas when seeking to obtain disaster assistance under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)); and

(B) legislative recommendations for improving access to disaster assistance for communities in rural areas.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment, in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. SCHUMER. I know of no further debate on the bill, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, and the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 1617), as amended, was passed.

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SMALL BUSINESS CYBER TRAINING ACT OF 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 393, S. 1687.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1687) to amend section 21 of the Small Business Act to require cyber certification for small business development center counselors, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Small Business Cyber Training Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. DUTIES OF SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER COUNSELORS.

(a) CYBER TRAINING.—Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(o) CYBER STRATEGY TRAINING FOR SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—

"(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

"(A) the term 'cyber strategy' means resources and tactics to assist in planning for cybersecurity and defending against cyber risks and attacks; and

"(B) the term 'lead small business development center' means a small business development center that receives reimbursement from the Administrator under paragraph (5).

"(2) CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.—The Administrator shall establish a cyber counseling certification program, or designate 1 or more substantially similar governmental or private cybersecurity certification programs, to certify the employees of lead small business development centers in providing cyber planning assistance to small business concerns.

"(3) NUMBER OF CERTIFIED EMPLOYEES.—The Administrator shall ensure that the number of employees of each lead small business development center who are certified in providing cyber planning assistance is not less than the lesser of—

"(A) 5; or

"(B) 10 percent of the total number of employees of the lead small business development center.

"(4) CYBER STRATEGY.—In carrying out paragraph (2), the Administrator, to the extent practicable, shall consider any cyber strategy methods included in the Small Business Development Center Cyber Strategy developed under section

1841(a)(3)(B) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328; 130 Stat. 2662).

“(5) REIMBURSEMENT FOR CERTIFICATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Administrator shall reimburse each lead small business development center for costs relating to the certification of 1 or more employees of the lead small business center in providing cyber planning assistance under a program established or designated under paragraph (2).

“(B) LIMITATION.—The total amount reimbursed by the Administrator under subparagraph (A) may not exceed \$350,000 in any fiscal year.

“(6) FUNDING UNDER SBDC PROGRAM.—Amounts made available to fund grants under this section for fiscal year 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, shall be available for reimbursements under this subsection.”

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall implement paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of section 21(o) of the Small Business Act, as added by subsection (a).

Mr. SCHUMER. I further ask that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. SCHUMER. I know of no further debate on the bill, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 1687), as amended, was passed.

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SMALL BUSINESS BROADBAND AND EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 395, S. 3906.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3906) to improve certain programs of the Small Business Administration to better assist small business customers in accessing broadband technology, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface back-

ets, and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italics.)

S. 3906

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 Broadband and Emerging Information Technology Enhancement Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. BROADBAND AND EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR.

The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 49 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) as section 50; and

(2) by inserting after section 48 (15 U.S.C. 657u) the following:

“SEC. 49. BROADBAND AND EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the term ‘Associate Administrator’ means the Associate Administrator for the Office of Investment and Innovation;

“(2) the term ‘broadband’ means—

“(A) high-speed wired broadband internet; and

“(B) high-speed wireless internet;

“(3) the term ‘broadband and emerging information technology coordinator’ means the employee designated to carry out the broadband and emerging information technology coordination responsibilities of the Administration under subsection (b)(1); and

“(4) the term ‘emerging information technology’ includes—

“(A) data science technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning;

“(B) Internet of Things;

“(C) distributed ledger technologies such as blockchain;

“(D) cloud computing and software as a system technologies;

“(E) computer numerical control technologies such as 3D printing; and

“(F) robotics and automation.

“(b) ASSIGNMENT OF COORDINATOR.—

“(1) ASSIGNMENT OF COORDINATOR.—The Associate Administrator shall designate a senior employee of the Office of Investment and Innovation to serve as the broadband and emerging information technology coordinator, who—

“(A) shall report to the Associate Administrator;

“(B) shall work in coordination with—

“(i) the chief information officer, the chief technology officer, and the head of the Office of Technology of the Administration; and

“(ii) any other Associate Administrator of the Administration determined appropriate by the Associate Administrator;

“(C) has experience developing and implementing telecommunications policy in the private sector or government; and

“(D) has demonstrated significant experience in the area of broadband or emerging information technology.

“(2) RESPONSIBILITIES OF COORDINATOR.—The broadband and emerging information technology coordinator shall—

“(A) coordinate programs of the Administration that assist small business concerns in adopting, making innovations in, and using broadband and other emerging information technologies;

“(B) serve as the primary liaison of the Administration to other Federal agencies involved in broadband and emerging information technology policy, including the Department of Commerce, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Treasury, and the Federal Communications Commission;

“(C) identify best practices relating to broadband and emerging information tech-

nology that may benefit small business concerns; and

“(D) identify and catalog tools and training available through the resource partners of the Administration that assist small business concerns in adopting, making innovations in, and using broadband and emerging information technologies.

“(3) TRAVEL.—Not more than 20 percent of the hours of service by the broadband and emerging information technology coordinator during any fiscal year shall consist of travel outside the United States to perform official duties.

“(c) BROADBAND AND EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING.—The Associate Administrator shall provide to employees of the Administration training that—

“(1) familiarizes employees of the Administration with broadband and other emerging information technologies; and

“(2) includes—

“(A) instruction on counseling small business concerns regarding adopting, making innovations in, and using broadband and other emerging information technologies; and

“(B) information on programs of the Federal Government that provide assistance to small business concerns relating to broadband and emerging information technologies; and

“(3) to maximum extent practicable, uses the tools and training cataloged and identified under subsection (b)(2)(D).

“(1) TRAINING.—The Associate Administrator shall provide to employees of the Administration training that—

“(A) familiarizes employees of the Administration with broadband and other emerging information technologies;

“(B) includes—

“(i) instruction on counseling small business concerns regarding adopting, making innovations in, and using broadband and other emerging information technologies; and

“(ii) information on programs of the Federal Government that provide assistance to small business concerns relating to broadband and emerging information technologies; and

“(C) to maximum extent practicable, uses the tools and training cataloged and identified under subsection (b)(2)(D).

“(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection.]

“(d) REPORTS.—

“(1) BIENNIAL REPORT ON ACTIVITIES.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Associate Administrator makes the first designation of an employee under subsection (b), and every 2 years thereafter, the broadband and emerging information technology coordinator 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 regarding the programs and activities of the Administration relating to broadband and other emerging information technologies.

“(2) IMPACT OF BROADBAND AVAILABILITY, SPEED, AND PRICE AND EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT ON SMALL BUSINESSES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to appropriations, the Chief Counsel for Advocacy shall conduct a study evaluating the impact of—

“(i) broadband availability, speed, and price on small business concerns; and

“(ii) emerging information technology deployment on small business concerns.

“(B) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Small Business Broadband and Emerging Information Technology Enhancement Act of 2022, the Chief Counsel for Advocacy shall submit to the