

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 526

To amend the Small Business Act to provide for expanded participation
in the microloan program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 2, 2017

Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Mr. COONS, Mr. SCOTT, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND)
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 Act to provide for expanded
participation in the microloan program, 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 “Microloan Moderniza-
5 tion Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act—

1 (1) the term “intermediary” has the meaning
2 given the term in section 7(m)(11) of the Small
3 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(11)); and

4 (2) the term “microloan program” means the
5 program established under section 7(m) of the Small
6 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)).

7 **SEC. 3. MICROLOAN INTERMEDIARY LENDING LIMIT IN-**
8 **CREASED.**

9 Section 7(m)(3)(C) of the Small Business Act (15
10 U.S.C. 636(m)(3)(C)) is amended by striking
11 “\$5,000,000” and inserting “\$6,000,000”.

12 **SEC. 4. ELIMINATION OF 25/75 RULE.**

13 Section 7(m)(4) of the Small Business Act (15
14 U.S.C. 636(m)(4)) is amended—

15 (1) by striking subparagraph (E); and

16 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as sub-
17 paragraph (E).

18 **SEC. 5. SBA STUDY OF MICROENTERPRISE PARTICIPATION.**

19 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
20 of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Ad-
21 ministration shall conduct a study and submit to the Com-
22 mittee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the
23 Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the
24 House of Representatives a report on—

(1) the operations (including services provided, structure, size, and area of operation) of a representative sample of—

(A) intermediaries that are eligible to participate in the microloan program and that do participate; and

(B) intermediaries (including those operated for profit, operated not for profit, and those affiliated with a United States institution of higher learning) that are eligible to participate in the microloan program and that do not participate;

(2) the reasons why intermediaries described in paragraph (1)(B) choose not to participate in the microloan program;

(3) recommendations on how to encourage increased participation in the microloan program by intermediaries described in paragraph (1)(B); and

(4) recommendations on how to decrease the costs associated with participation in the microloan program for eligible intermediaries.

SEC. 6. GAO STUDY ON MICROLOAN INTERMEDIARY PRACTICES.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States

1 shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and En-
2 trepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small
3 Business of the House of Representatives a report evalu-
4 ating—

5 (1) oversight of the microloan program by the
6 Small Business Administration, including oversight
7 of intermediaries participating in the microloan pro-
8 gram; and

9 (2) the specific processes used by the Small
10 Business Administration to ensure—

11 (A) compliance by intermediaries partici-
12 pating in the microloan program; and

13 (B) the overall performance of the micro-
14 loan program.

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