

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6940

To require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a study on tech startups,
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2020

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Small Business, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a study
on tech startups, 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 “Advancing Tech
5 Startups Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TECHNOLOGY STARTUP COMPANIES AND SMALL**
7 **BUSINESSES STUDY.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—

1 (1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 2 years
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
3 retary of Commerce, in coordination with the head
4 of any other appropriate Federal agency, shall con-
5 duct a study on the impact of technology startup
6 companies and small businesses on the United
7 States economy.

8 (2) REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.—In con-
9 ducting the study, the Secretary shall do the fol-
10 lowing:

11 (A) Conduct a survey on technology start-
12 up companies and small businesses in the
13 United States through outreach to participating
14 entities to—

15 (i) establish a list of locations, includ-
16 ing any State, city, or geographic area,
17 dedicated to the creation, development, and
18 growth of technology startup companies
19 and small businesses;

20 (ii) provide a description of the activi-
21 ties of such locations with respect to the
22 creation, development, and growth of tech-
23 nology startup companies and small busi-
24 nesses, including any incubators, accelera-
25 tors, or other activity dedicated to such;

1 (iii) establish a list of public-private
2 partnerships focused on promoting the cre-
3 ation, development, and growth of tech-
4 nology startup companies and small busi-
5 nesses; and

6 (iv) provide a description of the activi-
7 ties of such public-private partnerships to
8 create, develop, and grow technology start-
9 up companies and small businesses.

10 (B) Conduct a survey of Federal activity
11 related to innovation to—

12 (i) establish a comprehensive list of
13 Federal agencies asserting jurisdiction over
14 entities and industry sectors dedicated to
15 the creation, development, and growth of
16 technology startup companies and small
17 businesses;

18 (ii) identify all interagency activities
19 related to such activities;

20 (iii) develop a brief description of the
21 jurisdiction and expertise of the Federal
22 agencies identified under clause (i); and

23 (iv) identify each Federal rule, regula-
24 tion, guideline, policy, and other Federal
25 activity implemented by each Federal agen-

1 cy as it relates to any State, city, or geo-
2 graphic area dedicated to the creation, de-
3 velopment, and growth of technology start-
4 up companies and small businesses.

5 (C) Conduct an international survey of
6 other countries to establish a compendium at
7 least 10 and not more than 15 countries con-
8 sisting of each country’s approach to innovation
9 to determine where the United States ranks re-
10 garding a regulatory environment that supports
11 the creation, development, and growth of tech-
12 nology startup companies and small businesses.

13 (D) Conduct a survey of relevant market-
14 places and supply chains impacting the cre-
15 ation, growth, and development of technology
16 startup companies and small businesses in the
17 United States to—

18 (i) assess the severity of risks posed
19 to such marketplaces and supply chains;

20 (ii) review the ability of foreign gov-
21 ernments or third parties to exploit such
22 supply chains in a manner that raises risks
23 to the economic and national security of
24 the United States; and

1 (iii) identify emerging risks and long-
2 term trends in such marketplaces and sup-
3 ply chains.

4 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6
5 months after the completion of the study required pursu-
6 ant to subsection (a), the Secretary, in coordination with
7 the head of any other appropriate Federal agency, shall
8 submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the
9 House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
10 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report
11 that contains—

12 (1) the results of the study conducted under
13 subsection (a); and

14 (2) recommendations to—

15 (A) address any duplicative Federal rule,
16 regulation, guideline, policy, and other Federal
17 activity acting as a barrier to creation, develop-
18 ment, and growth of technology startup compa-
19 nies and small businesses;

20 (B) develop and implement a comprehen-
21 sive plan to promote the creation, development,
22 and growth of technology startup companies
23 and small businesses;

24 (C) develop policies that States can adopt
25 to encourage the creation, development, and

1 growth of technology startup companies and
2 small businesses in the United States;

3 (D) develop strategies to mitigate current
4 and emerging risks to relevant marketplaces
5 and supply chains impacting the creation,
6 growth, and development of technology startup
7 companies and small businesses; and

8 (E) develop legislation to accomplish such
9 recommendations.

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