

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2023

To modify the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 27, 2019

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. KENNEDY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

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## A BILL

To modify the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program of the Small Business Administration, 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 “FAST Fix Act of  
5 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL AND STATE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP**  
7 **PROGRAM.**

8 Section 34 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.  
9 657d) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the  
2 following:

3 “(11) UNDERPERFORMING STATE.—The term  
4 ‘underperforming State’ means a State participating  
5 in the SBIR or STTR program that has been cal-  
6 culated by the Administrator to be one of 18 States  
7 receiving the fewest SBIR and STTR Phase I  
8 awards.”;

9 (2) in subsection (c)—

10 (A) in paragraph (1)—

11 (i) in subparagraph (E)—

12 (I) in clause (iii), by striking  
13 “and” at the end;

14 (II) in clause (iv), by striking the  
15 period at the end and inserting “;  
16 and”;

17 (III) by adding at the end the  
18 following:

19 “(v) to prioritize applicants located in  
20 an underperforming State;”;

21 (B) in paragraph (2)—

22 (i) in subparagraph (B)(vi), by  
23 amending subclause (III) to read as fol-  
24 lows:

1                   “(III) located in an underper-  
2                   forming State;”;

3                   (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
4                   the period at the end and inserting “;  
5                   and”; and

6                   (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
7                   lowing:

8                   “(D) shall give first priority and special  
9                   consideration to an applicant that is located in  
10                  an underperforming State.”;

11                  (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “Not  
12                  more than one proposal” and inserting “There  
13                  is no limit on the number of proposals that”;  
14                  and

15                  (D) by adding at the end the following:

16                  “(6) ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR UNDERPER-  
17                  FORMING STATES.—Upon application by a recipient  
18                  that is located in an underperforming State, the Ad-  
19                  ministrators may—

20                         “(A) provide additional assistance to the  
21                         recipient; and

22                         “(B) waive the matching requirements  
23                         under subsection (e)(2).”;

24                  (3) in subsection (e)—

25                         (A) in paragraph (2)—

1 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (I) by inserting “and STTR” be-  
3 fore “first phase” each place that  
4 term appears;

5 (II) in clause (i), by striking  
6 “50” and inserting “25”; and

7 (III) in clause (iii), by striking  
8 “75” and inserting “50”; and

9 (ii) in subparagraph (D), by striking  
10 “, beginning with fiscal year 2001” and in-  
11 sserting “and make publicly available on the  
12 website of the Administration, beginning  
13 with fiscal year 2020”; and

14 (B) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(4) AMOUNT OF AWARD.—In carrying out the  
16 FAST program under this section, the Adminis-  
17 trator shall—

18 “(A) make and enter into not less than 12  
19 awards or cooperative agreements;

20 “(B) each award or cooperative agreement  
21 shall be for not more than \$500,000, which  
22 shall be provided over 2 fiscal years; and

23 “(C) any amounts left unused in the third  
24 quarter of the second fiscal year may be re-

1           tained by the Administrator for future FAST  
2           program awards.

3           “(5) REPORTING.—Not later than 6 months  
4           after receiving an award or entering into a coopera-  
5           tive agreement under this section, a recipient shall  
6           report to the Administrator—

7                   “(A) the number of awards made under  
8                   the SBIR or STTR program;

9                   “(B) the number of applications submitted  
10                  for the SBIR or STTR program;

11                  “(C) the number of consulting hours spent;

12                  “(D) the number of training events con-  
13                  ducted; and

14                  “(E) any issues encountered in the man-  
15                  agement and application of the FAST pro-  
16                  gram.”;

17           (4) in subsection (f)—

18                   (A) in paragraph (1)—

19                           (i) in the matter preceding subpara-  
20                           graph (A)—

21                                   (I) by striking “Not later than  
22                                   120 days after the date of the enact-  
23                                   ment of the Small Business Innova-  
24                                   tion Research Program Reauthoriza-

1 tion Act of 2000” and inserting  
2 “April 30, 2020”; and

3 (II) by inserting “and Entrepre-  
4 neurship” before “of the Senate”;

5 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
6 “and” at the end;

7 (iii) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
8 the period at the end and inserting “;  
9 and”; and

10 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-  
11 lowing:

12 “(D) a description of the process used to  
13 ensure that underperforming States are given  
14 priority application status under the FAST pro-  
15 gram.”; and

16 (B) in paragraph (2)—

17 (i) in the paragraph heading, by strik-  
18 ing “ANNUAL” and inserting “BIENNIAL”;

19 (ii) in the matter preceding subpara-  
20 graph (A), by striking “annual” and in-  
21 serting “biennial”;

22 (iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
23 “and” at the end;

1 (iv) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
2 the period at the end and inserting a semi-  
3 colon; and

4 (v) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(D) the proportion of awards provided to  
6 and cooperative agreements entered into with  
7 underperforming States; and

8 “(E) a list of the States that were deter-  
9 mined by the Administrator to be underper-  
10 forming States, and a description of any  
11 changes in the list compared to previously sub-  
12 mitted reports.”;

13 (5) in subsection (g)(2)—

14 (A) by striking “2004” and inserting  
15 “2020”; and

16 (B) by inserting “and Entrepreneurship”  
17 before “of the Senate”; and

18 (6) in subsection (h)(1), by striking  
19 “\$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through  
20 2005” and inserting “\$20,000,000 for every 2 fiscal  
21 years between fiscal years 2020 through 2024, to be  
22 obligated before the end of the second fiscal year”.

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