

Within 4 days of the law's passage, the SBA stalled its implementation, issuing an information notice that effectively contradicted the Small Business Runway Extension Act of 2018 by maintaining the 3-year calculation until the agency could go through the rulemaking process. Coincidentally, or perhaps because of the pressure exerted by Congress and the public, the SBA issued its proposed rule for the Small Business Runway Extension Act of 2018 mere days before Chairman GOLDEN and I held a hearing in the Subcommittee on Contracting and Infrastructure to hold the SBA accountable for its delay. Unfortunately, the proposed rule still maintains the current 3-year standard in SBA regulations.

During this hearing, we highlighted how this conflict in law versus SBA regulation imposes significant, real-world challenges for small businesses that may be teetering on the edge between small and other-than-small business status. The need for clarity was a constant and recurring theme, and this bill provides that clarity.

First, H.R. 2345 makes clear that the Small Business Runway Extension Act of 2018 does, in fact, apply to the SBA and, therefore, should have become effective on the date it was signed into law. Thus, businesses relying on the 5-year average to remain in their small business status were correct in their assessment and may continue to hold this status.

Second, the bill requires the Small Business Administration to develop a transition plan for small businesses and Federal agencies as they shift to the 5-year rule. The transition plan shall include a buffer period in which firms that benefit from the old 3-year calculation may continue to rely on that formula for a set amount of time as they prepare for the eventual shift to the 5-year average calculation.

In short, H.R. 2345 restates the intent of Congress as written in the Small Business Runway Extension Act of 2018 and adopts solutions that will create a smooth transition for all parties involved. This will allow more businesses to retain access to SBA benefits, including loans and contracts, that have allowed our small businesses to grow, thrive, and greatly contribute to our economy.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GOLDEN for his leadership on this act. It was and is a privilege to work with him on the Small Business Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2345, the Clarifying the Small Business Runway Extension Act.

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to reiterate that H.R. 2345 is important not only to help small contractors once they graduate, but it also holds the SBA accountable to the will of the people through an act of Congress.

Small businesses have told us they need a runway to grow and they need

that runway now. We need to ensure that this is done, that the SBA takes swift action. H.R. 2345 gets us there.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative STAUBER and Representative GOLDEN for working together on this important bill to ensure that congressional intent is not thwarted when it comes to the adequate and prompt implementation of the Small Business Runway Extension Act of 2018. That law was intended to make it easier for small Federal contractors to transition into the open marketplace.

The SBA has interpreted that the Small Business Runway Extension Act of 2018 applies to every other agency adopting its own size standard but not the SBA itself. Many small businesses and legal experts disagreed with the SBA's position, as did our committee.

This bipartisan bill reiterates that the law has been effective since its enactment and requires the SBA to issue a final rule for its implementation before the end of this year.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. DELGADO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2345, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. TITUS) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and

Pass H.R. 2744;

Agree to H. Res. 432; and

Pass H.R. 2037.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant

to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

USAID BRANDING MODERNIZATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2744) to authorize the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to prescribe the manner in which programs of the agency are identified overseas, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 414, nays 1, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 475]

YEAS—414

Adams	Clay	Flores
Aderholt	Cleaver	Fortenberry
Aguilar	Cline	Poster
Allen	Cloud	Foxx (NC)
Allred	Cohen	Frankel
Amash	Cole	Fudge
Amodei	Collins (GA)	Fulcher
Armstrong	Collins (NY)	Gabbard
Arrington	Comer	Gaetz
Axne	Conaway	Gallagher
Babin	Connolly	Gallego
Bacon	Cook	Garamendi
Baird	Cooper	García (IL)
Balderson	Correa	García (TX)
Banks	Costa	Gianforte
Barr	Courtney	Gibbs
Barragán	Cox (CA)	Gohmert
Bass	Craig	Golden
Beatty	Crawford	Gomez
Bera	Crenshaw	Gonzalez (OH)
Bergman	Crist	Gooden
Beyer	Crow	Gosar
Bilirakis	Cuellar	Gottheimer
Bishop (UT)	Cummings	Graves (GA)
Blumenauer	Cunningham	Graves (LA)
Bonamici	Curtis	Graves (MO)
Bost	Davids (KS)	Green (TN)
Boyle, Brendan	Davidson (OH)	Green, Al (TX)
F.	Davis (CA)	Grijalva
Brindisi	Davis, Danny K.	Grothman
Brooks (AL)	Davis, Rodney	Guest
Brooks (IN)	Dean	Guthrie
Brown (MD)	DeFazio	Haaland
Brownley (CA)	DeGette	Hagedorn
Buchanan	DeLauro	Harder (CA)
Buck	DelBene	Harris
Bucshon	Delgado	Hartzler
Budd	Demings	Hastings
Burchett	DeSaulnier	Hayes
Burgess	DesJarlais	Heck
Bustos	Deutch	Hern, Kevin
Butterfield	Diaz-Balart	Herrera Beutler
Byrne	Dingell	Hice (GA)
Calvert	Doggett	Higgins (NY)
Carbajal	Doyle, Michael	Hill (AR)
Cárdenas	F.	Hill (CA)
Carson (IN)	Duffy	Himes
Carter (GA)	Duncan	Holding
Carter (TX)	Dunn	Hollingsworth
Cartwright	Emmer	Horn, Kendra S.
Case	Engel	Horsford
Casten (IL)	Escobar	Houlahan
Castor (FL)	Eshoo	Hoyer
Castro (TX)	Espallat	Hudson
Chabot	Estes	Huffman
Cheney	Evans	Huizenga
Chu, Judy	Ferguson	Hunter
Cicilline	Finkenauer	Hurd (TX)
Cisneros	Fitzpatrick	Jackson Lee
Clark (MA)	Fleischmann	Jayapal
Clarke (NY)	Fletcher	Johnson (GA)