

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Small Business
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6515

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Committee on Small Business

FROM: Committee Majority Staff

DATE: September 13, 2023

RE: Full Committee Markup

On **Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 9:45 AM ET**, the Committee on Small Business will meet in room 2360 of the Rayburn House Office Building to mark up the following measures:

1. **H.R. 5424** – The Main Street Competes Act.
2. **H.R. 5265** – The Small Business Administration Rural Performance Report Act.
3. **H.R. 5425** – A bill to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Rural Affairs, and for other purposes.
4. **H.R. 5426** – A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to provide a link to resources for submitting reports on suspected fraud relating to certain COVID-19 loans.
5. **H.R. 5427** – A bill to prohibit individuals convicted of defrauding the Government from receiving any assistance from the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

Background

1. H.R. 5424 – The Main Street Competes Act.

The Main Street Competes Act amends the Small Business Administration's (SBA) charter to support competitive markets, consumer choice, and antitrust enforcement. Additionally, it requires the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission to issue annual reports to the SBA on how antitrust enforcement promoted small businesses' competitiveness in the previous fiscal year, and the SBA's Office of Advocacy to issue a subsequent report on how effective the enforcement was in aiding small businesses.

2. H.R. 5265 – The Small Business Administration Rural Performance Report Act.

The Small Business Administration Rural Performance Report Act amends the Small Business Act to require two reports on SBA's efforts to reach rural entrepreneurs. The first is to require the SBA to report on its Office of Rural Affairs and the efforts to promote financial assistance,

compiling annual statistics, providing information, the number of outreach and information sharing activities, partnerships, and the name of the Office's Director. The second report is on the findings of a 2018 Memorandum of Understanding between SBA and US Department of Agriculture to promote resources to rural entrepreneurs.

3. H.R. 5425 – A bill to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Rural Affairs, and for other purposes.

This legislation increases the responsibilities of the SBA Office of Rural Affairs to include outreach and webinars to rural communities. It changes the head of the Office from Director to Assistant Administrator, while making the role subject to competitive hiring processes and requires an annual report on the Office's outreach efforts.

4. H.R. 5426 – A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to provide a link to resources for submitting reports on suspected fraud relating to certain COVID-19 loans.

This bill requires the SBA's website to house a visible link to the Office of the Inspector General's page where individuals can report potentially fraudulent EIDL and PPP loans issued during the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. H.R. 5427 – A bill to prohibit individuals convicted of defrauding the Government from receiving any assistance from the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

The SBA Office of Inspector General concluded that more than \$200 billion in potential fraud was disbursed in the pandemic relief programs. This bill will prohibit anyone convicted of defrauding the government during the COVID-19 pandemic from ever receiving a loan through the SBA.