

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: July 10, 2026

RE: Full Committee Hearing: “AI on Main Street: How AI is Shaping the Future of Small Business”

On **Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 10:00 AM ET**, the House Committee on Small Business will hold a hearing titled “**AI on Main Street: How AI is Shaping the Future of Small Business.**” The meeting will convene in Room 2360 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The purpose of this hearing is to examine how artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming small business operations, competitiveness, and economic opportunity. This hearing will also assess barriers that small businesses face in AI adoption as well as federal initiatives that are helping small businesses learn and implement AI technologies.

I. Witnesses

- **Jordan Crenshaw**, Senior Vice President, Technology Engagement Center, U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- **Anthony Qaiyum**, President, Merz Apothecary
- **France Hoang**, Founder & CEO, BoodleBox
- **Chike Aguh**, Head of Innovation & Strategy, Kapor Center

II. Background

AI has quickly evolved from novel technology to an everyday business tool. Today, nearly 76 percent of small businesses report using AI in some form, more than double the share that did so in 2023.¹ Small businesses continue to close the gap with larger firms faster than any previous technology cycle. In early 2024, large businesses used AI roughly 1.8 times the rate of small businesses, and by August 2025, that gap narrowed to just 1.2 times.²

¹ U.S. Chamber of Commerce, *Empowering Small Bus.: The Impact of Technology on U.S. Small Bus.* 4th Edition (Aug. 18, 2025); News Release, Goldman Sachs, *Survey: Small Businesses Embrace AI—But need Training and Support to Fully Harness It* (Mar. 17, 2026).

² Robert Press, *AI in Business: Small Firms Closing In*, U.S. SMALL BUS. ADMIN. OFF. OF ADVOCACY (Sept. 24, 2025).

Across industries, AI is improving customer service, managing inventory and supply chains, strengthening cybersecurity, supporting marketing and accounting functions, and automating routine administrative work that once consumed hours.³

The benefits of AI adoption are becoming increasingly clear. 82 percent of small businesses using AI grew their workforce over the past year, indicating that the technology is helping firms scale rather than replacing workers.⁴ Roughly two-thirds of small businesses using AI expect it to increase their revenue, and the resulting efficiency gains free up money owners can reinvest in marketing, hiring, and growth.⁵ By lowering operating costs and expanding what a small team can accomplish, AI increasingly allows small firms to compete directly with much larger companies.

Despite this, many small businesses continue to face significant barriers to AI adoption. Owners consistently cite implementation costs, limited technical expertise, and concerns surrounding data privacy and cybersecurity as major obstacles.⁶ Nearly 73 percent of small businesses say they would benefit from additional access to AI training and implementation resources.⁷

Regulatory uncertainty has emerged as another significant challenge. A growing patchwork of state law and lack of clear federal AI requirements has left many small businesses uncertain about future compliance obligations, leaving them hesitant to invest in new technologies.

The Trump Administration has prioritized clearing these obstacles and keeping America ahead of its competitors. Through executive orders that sustain American AI leadership, support small business adoption, and address the patchwork of state regulation owners cite as a barrier, the Administration is reducing red tape for Main Street businesses seeking to scale.⁸ The House Committee on Small Business has also worked to fill the remaining gaps by advancing bipartisan legislation that puts AI training and guidance within reach of small businesses through the SBA's resource partners and learning tools.⁹

III. Conclusion

Artificial intelligence is rapidly reshaping how small businesses operate, compete, and grow. While adoption has accelerated and the benefits are increasingly clear, meaningful barriers around cost, expertise, infrastructure, and regulatory clarity remain. This hearing will examine how small businesses are putting AI to work, what is holding others back, and how targeted federal support can help ensure Main Street is positioned to succeed in an AI-driven economy.

³ U.S. Chamber of Com., *Empowering Small Bus.*, supra note 1.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ News Release, Goldman Sachs, Survey: Small Businesses Embrace AI—But need Training and Support to Fully Harness It (Mar. 17, 2026).

⁶ U.S. Chamber of Com., *Empowering Small Bus.*, supra note 1.

⁷ Goldman Sachs, *Small Businesses Embrace AI*, supra note 5.

⁸ Exec. Order No. 14179, 90 Fed. Reg. 8741 (Jan. 23, 2025); Exec. Order No. 14365, 90 Fed. Reg. 58499 (Dec. 11, 2025); *Winning the Race: America's AI Action Plan*, THE WHITE HOUSE (July 2025).

⁹ H.R. 5764, 119th Cong. § 2 (2025); H.R. 5784, 119th Cong. § 2 (2025); H.R. 8881, 119th Cong. § 2 (2026).