

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5265

To amend the Small Business Act to require a report on the performance of the Office of Rural Affairs, to require a report on the memorandum of understanding between the Small Business Administration and the Department of Agriculture entered into on April 4, 2018, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 25, 2023

Mr. ALFORD (for himself, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. ELLZEY, and Mr. BEAN of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

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## A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to require a report on the performance of the Office of Rural Affairs, to require a report on the memorandum of understanding between the Small Business Administration and the Department of Agriculture entered into on April 4, 2018, 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 “Small Business Admin-  
5 istration Rural Performance Report Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SMALL BUSINESS RURAL PERFORMANCE REPORTS.**

2 (a) OFFICE OF RURAL AFFAIRS ANNUAL PERFORM-  
3 ANCE REPORT.—Section 26 of the Small Business Act (15  
4 U.S.C. 653) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 “(d) REPORTS.—

7 “(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 90 days  
8 after the date of the enactment of this subsection,  
9 the Administrator shall make available on a website  
10 of the Administration, and submit to the Committee  
11 on Small Business of the House of Representatives  
12 and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepre-  
13 neurship of the Senate, a report on the activities of  
14 the Office during the year preceding the date of the  
15 report that includes the following elements:

16 “(A) How the Office is promoting financial  
17 assistance pursuant to subsection (c)(1).

18 “(B) Annual statistics compiled pursuant  
19 to subsection (c)(2).

20 “(C) How the Office is providing informa-  
21 tion pursuant to subsection (c)(3).

22 “(D) How the Office is providing informa-  
23 tion pursuant to subsection (c)(4).

24 “(E) The number of outreach events con-  
25 ducted by the Office to provide information de-

1           scribed in paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection  
2           (c).

3           “(F) Details of any partnerships that the  
4           Office engaged in to provide the outreach de-  
5           scribed in paragraph (5), including any partner-  
6           ships with the National Travel and Tourism Of-  
7           fice of the Department of Commerce.

8           “(G) The name of the director of the Of-  
9           fice and the number of staff employed by the  
10          Office.

11          “(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Administrator  
12          shall annually submit, along with the budget the  
13          budget justification materials submitted in support  
14          of the Small Business Administration budget for a  
15          fiscal year (as submitted with the budget of the  
16          President under section 1105(a) of title 31), a re-  
17          port that includes the elements described in para-  
18          graph (1).”.

19          (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 26(c)(5) of  
20          the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 653(c)(5)) is amended  
21          by striking “United States Tourism and Travel Adminis-  
22          tration” and inserting “National Travel and Tourism Of-  
23          fice of the Department of Commerce”.

24          (c) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH DE-  
25          PARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE REPORT.—Not later than

1 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
2 Administrator shall make available on a website of the Ad-  
3 ministration and submit to the Committee on Small Busi-  
4 ness of the House of Representatives and the Committee  
5 on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a  
6 report on the MOU. Such report shall include a descrip-  
7 tion of the following:

8           (1) How many working groups convened pursu-  
9           ant to the MOU the Administration was part of and  
10          if the Administration is still part of any such work-  
11          ing groups.

12          (2) How many staff employed by the Adminis-  
13          tration were and are still involved with a working  
14          group convened pursuant to the MOU.

15          (3) The findings specified in clauses (i) through  
16          (iv) of paragraph (1) of part 2 of the MOU.

17          (4) The findings specified in clauses (i) through  
18          (iv) of paragraph (2) of part 2 of the MOU.

19 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

20 In this Act:

21           (1) **ADMINISTRATOR.**—The term “Adminis-  
22           trator” means the Administrator of the Small Busi-  
23           ness Administration.

24           (2) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The term “Administra-  
25           tion” means the Small Business Administration.

1           (3) MOU.—The term “MOU” means the  
2 memorandum of understanding between the Depart-  
3 ment of Agriculture and the Small Business Admin-  
4 istration entered into on April 4, 2018, about col-  
5 laborative efforts to promote stronger businesses and  
6 agricultural economies in rural America.

7 **SEC. 4. COMPLIANCE WITH CUTGO.**

8           No additional amounts are authorized to be appro-  
9 priated to carry out this Act or the amendments made  
10 by this Act. Such Act and amendments shall be carried  
11 out using amounts otherwise appropriated to the Adminis-  
12 trator of the Small Business Administration.

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