

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10343

To amend the Small Business Act to require Federal agencies to provide enhanced debriefing materials to small business concerns for SBIR or STTR award denials, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

Ms. MEJIA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to require Federal agencies to provide enhanced debriefing materials to small business concerns for SBIR or STTR award denials, 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 “Clear Lessons and
5 Evaluation for Award Reviews Feedback Act” or the
6 “CLEAR Feedback Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENHANCED DEBRIEFING MATERIALS FOR SBIR**
2 **AWARD DENIALS.**

3 Section 9(g) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
4 638(g)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (18)(B), by striking “and” at
6 the end;

7 (2) in paragraph (19)(C), by striking the period
8 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

9 (3) by adding at the end the following new
10 paragraph:

11 “(20) establish a process to provide enhanced
12 debriefing materials to each small business concern
13 denied a Phase I, Phase II, or Phase III award for
14 a reason other a reason listed in paragraph (16),
15 which process—

16 “(A) is initiated upon request by such con-
17 cern not later than 14 business days after de-
18 nial of the award;

19 “(B) provides such concern an evaluation
20 by the Federal agency of the significant defi-
21 ciencies in the concern’s proposal, an overall
22 ranking of the concern’s proposal in relation to
23 all other proposals, and a summary of the ra-
24 tionale for denial of the award;

25 “(C) an opportunity for such concern to
26 submit, within 7 business days after receiving

1 such enhanced debriefing materials, additional
2 questions related to the debriefing; and

3 “(D) terminates when the Federal agency
4 submits answers to the questions received under
5 subparagraph (C), which shall be within 14
6 business days after receipt of such questions.”.

7 **SEC. 3. ENHANCED DEBRIEFING MATERIALS FOR STTR**
8 **AWARD DENIALS.**

9 Section 9(o) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
10 638(o)) is amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (22)(B), by striking “and” at
12 the end;

13 (2) in paragraph (23)(C), by striking the period
14 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

15 (3) by adding at the end the following new
16 paragraph:

17 “(24) establish a process to provide enhanced
18 debriefing materials to each small business concern
19 denied a Phase I, Phase II, or Phase III award for
20 a reason other a reason listed in paragraph (20),
21 which process—

22 “(A) is initiated upon request by such con-
23 cern not later than 14 business days after de-
24 nial of the award;

1 “(B) provides such concern an evaluation
2 by the Federal agency of the significant defi-
3 ciencies in the concern’s proposal, an overall
4 ranking of the concern’s proposal in relation to
5 all other proposals, and a summary of the ra-
6 tionale for denial of the award;

7 “(C) an opportunity for such concern to
8 submit, within 7 business days after receiving
9 such enhanced debriefing materials, additional
10 questions related to the debriefing; and

11 “(D) terminates when the Federal agency
12 submits answers to the questions received under
13 subparagraph (C), which shall be within 14
14 business days after receipt of such questions.”.

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