

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4820

To amend the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 to codify and expand the Regional Export Promotion Program of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 17, 2026

Ms. ALSOBROOKS (for herself and Mr. McCORMICK) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 to codify and expand the Regional Export Promotion Program of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

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 “Regional Export Pro-
5 motion Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. CODIFICATION OF REGIONAL EXPORT PROMOTION**
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 Section 2 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945
4 (12 U.S.C. 635) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(m) REGIONAL EXPORT PROMOTION PROGRAM.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Bank shall carry out a
8 Regional Export Promotion Program (in this sub-
9 section referred to as the ‘Program’) under which
10 the Bank works in partnership with eligible members
11 from regions of the United States to expand export
12 opportunities for businesses in those regions.

13 “(2) ELIGIBLE MEMBERS.—For purposes of the
14 Program, eligible members are State, county, and
15 local nonprofit economic development entities, in-
16 cluding—

17 “(A) State, county, and city governments;

18 “(B) local nonprofit economic development
19 entities funded through institutions of higher
20 education;

21 “(C) small business development centers
22 established pursuant to section 21 of the Small
23 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648); and

24 “(D) world trade centers.”.

1 **SEC. 3. PILOT PROGRAM TO EXPAND FOCUS OF REGIONAL**
 2 **EXPORT PROMOTION PROGRAM ON SMALL**
 3 **BUSINESSES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (m) of section 2 of the
 5 Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as added by section 2,
 6 is further amended by adding at the end the following:

7 “(3) PILOT PROGRAM TO EXPAND FOCUS OF
 8 PROGRAM ON SMALL BUSINESSES.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Bank shall imple-
 10 ment a pilot program to expand the Program to
 11 increase the footprint of the Bank in regions
 12 with high concentrations of small business con-
 13 cerns.

14 “(B) PRIORITY FOR CERTAIN ENTITIES.—
 15 In selecting new partners for the Program
 16 under the pilot program required by subpara-
 17 graph (A), the Bank shall prioritize entering
 18 into agreements with—

19 “(i) State and local economic develop-
 20 ment agencies serving HUBZones (as de-
 21 fined in section 31(b) of the Small Busi-
 22 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 657a(b)));

23 “(ii) community development financial
 24 institutions (as defined in section 103 of
 25 the Community Development Banking and

1 Financial Institutions Act of 1994 (12
2 U.S.C. 4702));

3 “(iii) minority depository institutions
4 (as defined in section 308 of the Financial
5 Institutions Reform, Recovery, and En-
6 forcement Act of 1989 (Public Law 101–
7 73; 12 U.S.C. 1463 note));

8 “(iv) local chambers of commerce; and

9 “(v) local community banks and credit
10 unions.

11 “(C) ASSISTANCE.—Under the pilot pro-
12 gram required by subparagraph (A), the Bank
13 shall provide—

14 “(i) specialized training and mar-
15 keting collateral;

16 “(ii) short-term export credit insur-
17 ance products specifically designed for
18 small business accounts; and

19 “(iii) in the case of entities that have
20 not used products of the Bank before,
21 streamlined application processes.

22 “(D) DURATION.—The pilot program re-
23 quired by subparagraph (A) shall terminate on
24 the date that is 5 years after the pilot program
25 commences.

1 “(E) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN DE-
2 FINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘small
3 business concern’ has the meaning given that
4 term in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15
5 U.S.C. 632).”.

6 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one year
7 after the commencement of the pilot program required by
8 paragraph (3) of section 2(m) of the Export-Import Bank
9 Act of 1945, as added by subsection (a), and annually
10 thereafter for 5 years, the President of the Export-Import
11 Bank of the United States shall submit to the Committee
12 on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate
13 and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of
14 Representatives a report—

15 (1) detailing the number of new regular part-
16 ners of the Bank developed under the pilot program,
17 disaggregated by entity type;

18 (2) detailing the total volume and dollar
19 amount of Bank products utilized by small business
20 concerns (as defined in section 3 of the Small Busi-
21 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 632)) as a direct result of refer-
22 rals from those partners;

23 (3) assessing the elements of the pilot program
24 that were most successful and the elements that
25 could use improvement; and

- 1 (4) making recommendations with respect to
- 2 whether new appropriations or other funding for the
- 3 pilot program would be helpful or would have made
- 4 the pilot program more successful.

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