

MAIN STREET COMPETES ACT

JUNE 3, 2026.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, from the Committee on Small Business,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 8882]

The Committee on Small Business, to whom was referred the bill
(H.R. 8882) to amend the Small Business Economic Policy Act of
1980 to examine how the competitiveness of small businesses is af-
fected by the enforcement of Federal antitrust laws, and for other
purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon
without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

CONTENTS

	Page
I. Purpose and Bill Summary	2
II. Need for Legislation	2
III. Hearings	2
IV. Committee Consideration	2
V. Committee Votes	2
VI. Section-by-Section of H.R. 8882	4
VII. Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate	4
VIII. New Budget Authority, Entitlement Authority, and Tax Expenditures	4
IX. Oversight Findings & Recommendations	4
X. Performance Goals and Objectives	5
XI. Statement of Duplication of Federal Programs	5
XII. Congressional Earmarks, Limited Tax Benefits, and Limited Tariff Benefits	5
XIII. Federal Mandates Statement	5
XIV. Federal Advisory Committee Statement	5
XV. Applicability to Legislative Branch	5
XVI. Statement of Constitutional Authority	5
XVII. Changes in Existing Law Made by the Bill, as Reported	5
XVIII. Minority Views	10

I. PURPOSE AND BILL SUMMARY

On May 19, 2026, Rep. Hilary Scholten (D–MI) and Rep. Derek Schmidt (D–KS), introduced H.R. 8882, the *Main Street Competes Act*. H.R. 8882 requires regular reporting and analysis of antitrust enforcement related to small businesses.

II. NEED FOR LEGISLATION

The *Main Street Competes Act* addresses concerns that small businesses have limited visibility into how federal antitrust enforcement affects their ability to compete. While large mergers and anti-competitive practices can disadvantage small firms, there is currently no consistent, government-wide assessment of how enforcement actions by federal antitrust agencies affect small business competitiveness or how such agencies respond to small business complaints.

By better understanding how antitrust enforcement affects small businesses, Congress can make more informed policy decisions to promote competition, prevent harmful market consolidation, and ensure small businesses have a fair opportunity to grow. This bill takes a targeted, data-driven approach to support Main Street businesses and improve economic competitiveness.

This legislation directs federal antitrust agencies, the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice, to submit data on complaints, investigations, and enforcement actions involving small businesses to the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Office of Advocacy (Advocacy). It also requires Advocacy to compile findings, evaluate trends, and provide recommendations to Congress on how to improve competition and address harmful anti-competitive conduct.

III. HEARINGS

The Committee on Small Business held the following hearings examining matters related to H.R. 8882:

- On February 5, 2025, the Committee held a hearing titled “Hope on the Horizon: Prioritizing Small Business Growth in the 119th Congress”
- On January 7, 2026, the Committee held a hearing titled “A Voice for Small Business: How the SBA Office of Advocacy is Cutting Red Tape”

IV. COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

The Committee on Small Business met in open session, with a quorum being present, on May 20, 2026, and ordered H.R. 8882 to be reported favorably to the House of Representatives by a roll call vote of 23 ayes to 0 nos.

V. COMMITTEE VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires the Committee to list the recorded votes on the motion to report legislation and amendments thereto. The Committee voted to favorably report H.R. 8882 to the House of Representatives at 4:14 PM.

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)	X	
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)	X	
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)	X	
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)	X	
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)	X	
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)	X	
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)	X	
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)	X	
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)	X	
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)	X	
	Mr. Fuller (GA-14)	X	
		12	
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	X	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	X	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	X	
	Ms. McIver (NJ-10)	X	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	X	
	Ms. Morrison (MN-03)	X	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	X	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)	X	
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	X	
	Mr. Olszewski (MD-02)	X	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	X	
		11	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)	X	
	TOTALS	23	0

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (*Second Session*)

Date: 5/20/2026 _____

Time: 4:14 PM ET _____

Measure: **H.R. 8882 – Main Street Competes Act**

Offered By: _____

Amendment #: _____

Result?	<u>Agreed To:</u> [X]		
	<u>Not Agreed To:</u> []		
	<u>Withdrawn:</u> []		
<i>Voice Vote</i>	<i>Ayes</i>	<i>Nays</i>	<i>Present</i>
	23	0	

FC Vote #	9
-----------	---

VI. SECTION-BY-SECTION OF H.R. 8882

Section 1—Short title

This Act may be cited as the “Main Street Competes Act.”

Section 2—Congressional declaration of Small Business Economic Policy

This section updates the Small Business Economic Policy Act of 1980 to emphasize the importance of competitive markets by strengthening enforcement of federal antitrust laws against anti-competitive conduct and illegal mergers that harm small businesses.

Section 3—Report on the state of small business concerns

This section directs the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission to submit biennial reports to the SBA Office of Advocacy detailing antitrust enforcement activity related to small businesses, including complaints, investigations, and enforcement actions. The SBA Office of Advocacy must then analyze this data, evaluate impacts across industries, and provide recommendations through a report to Congress on ways to promote competition and address harmful anticompetitive behavior.

VII. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

Pursuant to 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee adopts as its own the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. At the time this report was filed, the Committee has requested but not received a cost estimate from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

VIII. NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY, ENTITLEMENT AUTHORITY, AND TAX EXPENDITURES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(I) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee provides the following opinion and estimate with respect to new budget authority, entitlement authority, and tax expenditures. While the Committee has not received an estimate of new budget authority contained in the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee does not believe that there will be any new or increased costs attributable to this legislation.

IX. OVERSIGHT FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

In accordance with clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII and clause 2(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the oversight findings and recommendations of the Committee on Small Business with respect to the subject matter contained in H.R. 8882 are incorporated into the descriptive portions of this report.

X. PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the goal of H.R. 8882 is to require regular reporting and analysis of antitrust enforcement related to small businesses.

XI. STATEMENT OF DUPLICATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(5) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, no provision of H.R. 8882 is known to be duplicative of another Federal program, including any program that was included in a report to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139 or the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

XII. CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, AND LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

With respect to clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds that the bill does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(e), 9(f), or 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

XIII. FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee will adopt as its own the estimate of the Federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

XIV. FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act were created by this legislation.

XV. APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

XVI. STATEMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House, the Committee finds that the authority for this legislation in Art. I, § 8, cl.1 of the Constitution of the United States.

XVII. CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC POLICY ACT OF 1980

* * * * *

TITLE III—SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC POLICY

* * * * *

DECLARATION OF SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC POLICY

SEC. 302. (a) For the purpose of preserving and promoting a competitive free enterprise economic system, Congress hereby declares that it is the continuing policy and responsibility of the Federal Government to use all practical means and to take such actions as are necessary, consistent with its needs and obligations and other essential considerations of national policy, to implement and coordinate all Federal department, agency, and instrumentality policies, programs, and activities in order to: foster the economic interests of small businesses; insure a competitive economic climate conducive to the development, growth and expansion of small businesses; establish incentives to assure that adequate capital and other resources at competitive prices are available to small businesses; reduce the concentration of economic resources and expand competition; **[and provide]** *provide* an opportunity for entrepreneurship, inventiveness, and the creation and growth of small businesses**[.]**; *and promote competitive markets, consumer choice, and business ownership through enforcement of Federal antitrust laws in the case of anticompetitive conduct and illegal mergers that harms small businesses and the growth of small businesses.*

(b) Congress further declares that the Federal Government is committed to a policy of utilizing all reasonable means, consistent with the overall economic policy goals of the Nation and the preservation of the competitive free enterprise system of the Nation, to establish private sector incentives that will help assure that adequate capital at competitive prices is available to small businesses. To fulfill this policy, departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Federal Government shall use all reasonable means to coordinate, create, and sustain policies and programs which promote investment in small businesses, including those investments which expand employment opportunities and which foster the effective and efficient use of human and natural resources in the economy of the Nation.

[STATE OF SMALL BUSINESS]

[SEC. 303. (a) The president shall transmit to the congress not later than January 20 of each year a report on small business and competition which shall—

[(1) examine the current role of small business in the economy on an industry-by-industry basis;

[(2) present current and historical data on production, employment, investment, population, job creation and retention, annual business failures, annual business startups, and other economic variables for small business in the economy as a whole and for small business in each sector of the economy, with, to the extent practicable, specific statistics divided as to urban, suburban, and rural areas;

[(3) identify economic trends which will or may affect the small business sector and the state of competition;

[(4) examine the effects on small business and competition of policies, programs, and activities, including, but not limited to the Internal Revenue Code, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, the Securities Act of 1933, and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and regulations promulgated thereunder; identify problems generated by such policies, programs, and activities; and recommend legislative and administrative solutions to such problems; and

[(5) recommend a program for carrying out the policy declared in section 302 of this Act, together with such recommendations for legislation as he may deem necessary or desirable.

[(b) The President also shall transmit simultaneously as an appendix to such annual report, a report, by agency and department, on the total dollar value of all Federal contracts exceeding \$10,000 in amount and the dollar amount (including the subcontracts thereunder in excess of \$10,000) awarded to small, minority-owned, female-owned, and veteran-owned businesses.

[(c) The President may transmit from time to time to the Congress Supplementary reports supplementary to the Report on Small Business and Competition, each of which shall include such supplementary or revised, recommendations as he may deem necessary or desirable to achieve the policy declared in section 302 of this Act.

[(d) The Report on Small Business and Competition and all supplementary reports transmitted under subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall, when transmitted to Congress, be referred to the Senate Select Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives.

[(e) The information and data required to be reported pursuant to subsection (a) shall separately detail those portions of such information and data that are relevant to—

[(1) small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, by gender, as defined pursuant to section 8(d) of the Small Business Act;

[(2) small business concerns owned and controlled by women; and

[(3) qualified HUBZone small business concern (as defined in section 3(p) of the Small Business Act).

[(3) small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, as defined in section 3(q) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(q)), and small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, as defined in such section 3(q).]

SEC. 303. REPORT ON THE STATE OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.

(a) *SPECIFIED ENTITY REPORT.*—Not later than 180 days after the end of the fiscal year in which the Main Street Competes Act is enacted, and every two fiscal years thereafter, the head of each specified entity shall submit to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration a report including—

(1) an analysis of how enforcement by the specified entity of Federal antitrust laws promoted competition during the preceding fiscal year by deterring and remedying anticompetitive conduct, including illegal mergers, that harms small businesses and the growth of small businesses;

(2) the number of complaints of alleged antitrust violations filed by self-identified small businesses with the specified entity during such fiscal year, disaggregated by type of offense and the specific Federal antitrust laws allegedly violated;

(3) the number of inquiries, investigations, and enforcement actions undertaken by the specified entity in response to complaints filed by small businesses with the specified entity during such fiscal year; and

(4) the number of inquiries, investigations, and enforcement actions undertaken by the specified entity during such fiscal year pursuant to an alleged antitrust violation, opened for a reason other than a complaint filed by a small business as described in paragraph (3), to deter and remedy anticompetitive conduct that harms small businesses and the growth of small businesses.

(b) *OFFICE OF ADVOCACY REPORT.*—Not later than 180 days after receipt of the report required by subsection (a), the Chief Counsel for Advocacy shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of Senate a report that includes—

(1) a summary of the report submitted under subsection (a);

(2) an analysis of the data in such report, disaggregated by industry category;

(3) an evaluation of the issues identified in such report relating to—

(A) anticompetitive conduct, including illegal mergers, that harmed small businesses and the growth of small businesses; and

(B) administrative actions that promoted competition and growth of small businesses;

(4) as appropriate, recommendations for administrative actions that could—

(A) promote competition;

(B) deter anticompetitive conduct, including illegal mergers, that harmed small business and the growth of small businesses; and

(C) remedy such anticompetitive conduct; and

(5) as appropriate, recommendations for legislative actions that could—

(A) promote competition;

(B) deter anticompetitive conduct, including illegal mergers, that harmed small business and the growth of small businesses; and

(C) remedy such anticompetitive conduct.

SEC. 304. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) *ANTITRUST VIOLATION.*—The term “antitrust violation” means any violation of Federal antitrust laws.

(2) *FEDERAL ANTITRUST LAWS.*—The term “Federal antitrust laws” has the meaning given the term “antitrust laws” in subsection (a) of the first section of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 12(a)), except that such term shall also include section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 45) to the extent that such section 5 applies to unfair methods of competition.

(3) *SMALL BUSINESS.*—The term “small business” has the meaning given the term “small business concern” under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

(4) *SPECIFIED ENTITY.*—The term “specified entity” means—

(A) the Department of Justice; and

(B) the Federal Trade Commission.

XVIII. MINORITY VIEWS

A competitive business environment is the lifeblood of a thriving free-enterprise economy, spurring innovation, driving productivity, and fostering consumer choice at fair prices. America's Main Street businesses are a critical component of our economy, and their success hinges upon a competitive marketplace. Unfortunately, the competitive landscape that small firms rely on has been eroded for decades, as large companies have absorbed significant market share across many industries. One study found that 75 percent of industries have seen increasing concentration since the mid-1990s and the average firm is roughly three times larger than 20 years ago.

Federal antitrust laws are crucial tools protecting the competitive environment for small businesses. They exist to prevent monopolies or collusion that can harm competition or stifle innovation, create barriers to market entry, and harm consumers and workers through inflated prices or suppressed wages. Regrettably, their limited use in recent decades has contributed to the ongoing concentration of industries. As a result, corporations with outsized market power have exploited their dominant positions, using predatory pricing, price discrimination, self-dealing, and exclusionary conduct to squeeze smaller competitors. Not only has this jeopardized the survival of many small businesses, but it has also stifled the entrepreneurial spirit.

The SBA's Office of Advocacy has a broad mandate to advocate for small businesses within the federal government. Its primary functions include the requirement to "recommend specific measures for creating an environment in which all businesses will have the opportunity to compete effectively and expand to their full potential." Given its mandate, it is uniquely positioned to work with antitrust enforcement bodies like the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Department of Justice (DOJ). While these agencies have the power to enforce these laws, they may not have the direct input from small businesses necessary to make important decisions on enforcement action. By fostering collaboration between these enforcement agencies and the Office of Advocacy, Congress can ensure the input of small businesses are considered and reaffirm the Office of Advocacy's commitment to being the voice for small businesses within the Federal government.

NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ,
Ranking Member.

○