

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3218

To improve the coordination of export promotion programs and to facilitate export opportunities for small businesses, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 22, 2012

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

A BILL

To improve the coordination of export promotion programs and to facilitate export opportunities for small businesses, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Small Business Export Growth Act of 2012”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—IMPROVED COORDINATION OF EXPORT PROMOTION
PROGRAMS

- Sec. 101. Consolidation of duplicative export promotion activities; information about trade missions and trade fairs.
- Sec. 102. Clarification of roles of members of Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee.
- Sec. 103. Representative of State agencies on Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee.
- Sec. 104. Reports to Congress with respect to activities of Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee.
- Sec. 105. Report on improvements to Export.gov as a single window for export information.
- Sec. 106. Report on developing a single window for information about export control compliance.

TITLE II—FACILITATION OF EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

- Sec. 201. Definitions.
- Sec. 202. Promotion of exporting.
- Sec. 203. Small business export matchmaking pilot program.
- Sec. 204. Export control education.
- Sec. 205. Small business inter-agency task force on export financing.
- Sec. 206. Availability of State resource guides on Export.gov.

1 **TITLE I—IMPROVED COORDINA-** 2 **TION OF EXPORT PROMOTION** 3 **PROGRAMS**

4 **SEC. 101. CONSOLIDATION OF DUPLICATIVE EXPORT PRO-** 5 **MOTION ACTIVITIES; INFORMATION ABOUT** 6 **TRADE MISSIONS AND TRADE FAIRS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2312(b) of the Export
8 Enhancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4727(b)) is amend-
9 ed—

- 10 (1) in paragraph (4), by inserting “, including
- 11 by identifying opportunities to consolidate or co-lo-
- 12 cate offices of agencies involved in such activities”
- 13 after “export financing activities”;
- 14 (2) in paragraph (5)—

1 (A) by inserting “, including the use and
2 coordination of electronic databases,” after “the
3 appropriate levels and allocation of resources”;
4 and

5 (B) by striking “; and” and inserting a
6 semicolon;

7 (3) by redesignating paragraph (6) as para-
8 graph (7); and

9 (4) by inserting after paragraph (5) the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(6) to the maximum extent practicable, pro-
12 vide a detailed listing of current and future Federal
13 and State-led trade missions, trade fairs, and related
14 activities to ensure better delivery of services to
15 United States businesses; and”.

16 (b) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary
17 of Commerce shall make available the information on Fed-
18 eral and State-led trade missions, trade fairs, and related
19 activities described in paragraph (6) of section 2312(b)
20 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988, as added by sub-
21 section (a)(4) of this section, on the website Export.gov
22 or a successor website.

1 **SEC. 102. CLARIFICATION OF ROLES OF MEMBERS OF**
 2 **TRADE PROMOTION COORDINATING COM-**
 3 **MITTEE.**

4 Section 2312(c) of the Export Enhancement Act of
 5 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4727(c)) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), (5),
 7 and (6) as paragraphs (4), (5), (6), and (8), respec-
 8 tively;

9 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
 10 lowing:

11 “(3) with respect to export promotion and ex-
 12 port financing activities of each department or agen-
 13 cy that is a member of the TPCC—

14 “(A) clearly identify and explain the role of
 15 the department or agency; and

16 “(B) describe the goals and objectives of
 17 the department or agency and explain the ra-
 18 tionale for measuring and reporting on those
 19 goals and objectives;”;

20 (3) in paragraph (5) (as redesignated)—

21 (A) by inserting “and Congress” after “the
 22 President”; and

23 (B) by striking “paragraph (3)” and in-
 24 serting “paragraph (4)”;

25 (4) in paragraph (6) (as redesignated), by strik-
 26 ing “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

1 (5) by inserting after paragraph (6) (as redesignated) the following:

3 “(7) include any recommendations of the Comptroller General of the United States that relate to
4 coordination of the TPCC and departments and
5 agencies that are members of the TPCC; and”; and

7 (6) in paragraph (8) (as redesignated), by striking
8 “United States National Tourism Organization”
9 and inserting “United States Travel Association”.

10 **SEC. 103. REPRESENTATIVE OF STATE AGENCIES ON**
11 **TRADE PROMOTION COORDINATING COM-**
12 **MITTEE.**

13 Section 2312(d) of the Export Enhancement Act of
14 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4727(d)) is amended—

15 (1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

17 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

19 “(2) REPRESENTATIVE OF STATE AGENCIES.—
20 In addition to the members specified in paragraph
21 (1), there shall be one member of the TPCC that
22 represents State agencies with responsibility for export
23 promotion and export financing.”.

1 **SEC. 104. REPORTS TO CONGRESS WITH RESPECT TO AC-**
 2 **TIVITIES OF TRADE PROMOTION COORDI-**
 3 **NATING COMMITTEE.**

4 Section 2312(f) of the Export Enhancement Act of
 5 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4727(f)) is amended to read as follows:

6 “(f) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

7 “(1) REPORTS BY TPCC.—The chairperson of
 8 the TPCC shall prepare and submit to the appro-
 9 priate congressional committees, not later than
 10 March 30 of each year, a report that—

11 “(A) describes the strategic plan developed
 12 by the TPCC pursuant to subsection (c), the
 13 implementation of such plan, and any revisions
 14 thereto; and

15 “(B) describes the implementation of sec-
 16 tions 303 and 304 of the FREEDOM Support
 17 Act (22 U.S.C. 5823 and 5824) concerning
 18 funding for export promotion activities and the
 19 interagency working groups on energy of the
 20 TPCC.

21 “(2) REPORTS BY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF DE-
 22 PARTMENT OF COMMERCE.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Inspector General
 24 of the Department of Commerce shall prepare
 25 and submit to the appropriate congressional

committees, not later than March 30 of each year, a report on the extent to which—

“(i) the TPCC is successfully carrying out the duties described in subsection (b); and

“(ii) the strategic plan described in subsection (c) is being implemented successfully.

“(B) CONSULTATION.—In preparing the report required under subparagraph (A), the Inspector General of the Department of Commerce shall, to the maximum extent practicable, consult with the inspector general of each other Federal department or agency that is a member of the TPCC.

“(3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(A) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate; and

“(B) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Small Business, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.”.

**SEC. 105. REPORT ON IMPROVEMENTS TO EXPORT.GOV AS
A SINGLE WINDOW FOR EXPORT INFORMATION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of International Trade of the Small Business Administration shall, after consultation with the entities specified in subsection (b), submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report that includes the recommendations of the Director for improving the experience provided by the website Export.gov (or a successor website) as—

(1) a comprehensive resource for information about exporting articles from the United States; and

(2) a single website for exporters to submit all information required by the Federal Government with respect to the exportation of articles from the United States.

1 (b) ENTITIES SPECIFIED.—The entities specified in
2 this subsection are—

3 (1) small business concerns (as defined in sec-
4 tion 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632))
5 that are exporters; and

6 (2) the President’s Export Council, State agen-
7 cies with responsibility for export promotion or ex-
8 port financing, district export councils, and trade as-
9 sociations.

10 **SEC. 106. REPORT ON DEVELOPING A SINGLE WINDOW FOR**
11 **INFORMATION ABOUT EXPORT CONTROL**
12 **COMPLIANCE.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
14 date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Counsel for
15 Advocacy of the Small Business Administration shall sub-
16 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a report
17 assessing the benefits of developing a website to serve as—

18 (1) a comprehensive resource for complying
19 with and information about the export control laws
20 and regulations of the United States; and

21 (2) a single website for exporters to submit all
22 information required by the Federal Government
23 with respect to export controls.

1 (b) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
2 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate con-
3 gressional committees” means—

4 (1) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
5 Transportation and the Committee on Small Busi-
6 ness and Entrepreneurship of the Senate; and

7 (2) the Committee on Energy and Commerce
8 and the Committee on Small Business of the House
9 of Representatives.

10 **TITLE II—FACILITATION OF EX-**
11 **PORT OPPORTUNITIES FOR**
12 **SMALL BUSINESSES**

13 **SEC. 201. DEFINITIONS.**

14 In this title—

15 (1) the terms “Administration” and “Adminis-
16 trator” mean the Small Business Administration
17 and the Administrator thereof, respectively;

18 (2) the term “region of the Administration” has
19 the meaning given that term in section 3(u) of the
20 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(u)); and

21 (3) the term “small business concern” has the
22 meaning given that term under section 3 of the
23 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

1 **SEC. 202. PROMOTION OF EXPORTING.**

2 Section 22(c)(11) of the Small Business Act (15
3 U.S.C. 649(c)(11)) is amended by inserting “, which shall
4 include conducting not fewer than 1 outreach event each
5 fiscal year in each State that promotes exporting as a
6 business development opportunity for small business con-
7 cerns” before the semicolon.

8 **SEC. 203. SMALL BUSINESS EXPORT MATCHMAKING PILOT**
9 **PROGRAM.**

10 (a) PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—The Adminis-
11 trator shall establish a pilot program to conduct, in each
12 region of the Administration, matchmaking events that
13 are designed to facilitate contact between small business
14 concerns and potential foreign buyers or international cli-
15 ents.

16 (b) PROGRAM.—The Administrator—

17 (1) shall conduct at least 1 matchmaking event
18 in each region of the Administration each year; and

19 (2) may hold a matchmaking event in coordina-
20 tion with an outreach event required under section
21 22(c)(11) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
22 649(c)(11)), as amended by section 202 of this Act.

23 (c) SUNSET.—The authority of the Administrator
24 under this section shall terminate on September 30, 2015.

1 **SEC. 204. EXPORT CONTROL EDUCATION.**

2 Section 22 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649)
3 is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating subsection (l) as subsection
5 (m); and

6 (2) by inserting after subsection (k) the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(l) EXPORT CONTROL EDUCATION.—The Associate
9 Administrator shall ensure that all programs of the Ad-
10 ministration to support exporting by small business con-
11 cerns place a priority on educating small business concerns
12 about Federal export control regulations.”.

13 **SEC. 205. SMALL BUSINESS INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON**
14 **EXPORT FINANCING.**

15 The Administrator, the Secretary of Agriculture, the
16 Export-Import Bank of the United States, and the Over-
17 seas Private Investment Corporation shall jointly establish
18 a Small Business Inter-Agency Task Force on Export Fi-
19 nancing to—

20 (1) review and improve Federal export finance
21 programs for small business concerns; and

22 (2) coordinate the activities of the Federal Gov-
23 ernment to assist small business concerns seeking to
24 export.

1 **SEC. 206. AVAILABILITY OF STATE RESOURCE GUIDES ON**
2 **EXPORT.GOV.**

3 The Secretary of Commerce shall make available on
4 the website Export.gov (or a successor website) informa-
5 tion on the resources relating to export promotion and ex-
6 port financing available in each State—

7 (1) organized by State; and

8 (2) including information on State agencies
9 with responsibility for export promotion or export fi-
10 nancing and district export councils and trade asso-
11 ciations located in the State.

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