

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5001

To amend the reporting requirements for the SBIR and STTR programs,
and for other purpose.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 19, 2025

Mr. MCGARVEY 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 reporting requirements for the SBIR and
STTR programs, and for other purpose.

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 “SBIR/STTR Oversight
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

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

9 (1) in subsection (g)(9)—

1 (A) by inserting “the House Committee on
2 Small Business, Senate Committee on Small
3 Business and Entrepreneurship,” after “SBIR
4 program to”;

5 (B) by inserting a comma after “Adminis-
6 tration”; and

7 (C) by inserting after “Technology Policy”
8 the following: “and publish such report on the
9 website of such Federal agency as soon as prac-
10 ticable”;

11 (2) in subsection (o)(10)—

12 (A) by inserting “House Committee on
13 Small Business, Senate Committee on Small
14 Business and Entrepreneurship,” after “STTR
15 program to”;

16 (B) by inserting a comma after “Adminis-
17 tration”; and

18 (C) by inserting after “Technology Policy”
19 the following: “and publish such report on the
20 website of such Federal agency as soon as prac-
21 ticable”; and

22 (3) in subsection (gg)(6), by inserting “Con-
23 gress and” after “agency to”.

1 **SEC. 3. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON DIVER-**
2 **SIFICATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than three years after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller
5 General of the United States shall submit to the Com-
6 mittee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the
7 Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the
8 House of Representatives a report on the effectiveness of
9 the SBIR and STTR programs with respect to diversifica-
10 tion of participants and commercialization.

11 (b) CONTENTS.—The report shall include, to the ex-
12 tent practicable, an assessment of—

13 (1) the demographics of small business concerns
14 receiving SBIR or STTR awards, including new en-
15 trants and underrepresented groups;

16 (2) the efforts of participating agencies to
17 broaden representation and participation of new en-
18 trants and underrepresented groups in the SBIR
19 and STTR programs;

20 (3) how participating agencies develop sollicita-
21 tion topics and attract applicants;

22 (4) the efforts of participating agencies to sup-
23 port technology commercialization;

24 (5) the extent to which the SBIR and STTR
25 awards made by each participating agency align with

1 the research priorities and technology needs of that
2 participating agency; and

3 (6) such other matters as the Comptroller Gen-
4 eral, in consultation with the Committee on Small
5 Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and
6 the Committee on Small Business of the House of
7 Representatives, determines appropriate.

8 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) FEDERAL AGENCY; SBIR; STTR.—The terms
10 “Federal agency”, “SBIR”, and “STTR” have the
11 meanings given such terms in section 9(e) of the
12 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(e)).

13 (2) NEW ENTRANT.—The term “new entrant”
14 means a small business concern that has not pre-
15 viously received an SBIR or STTR award.

16 (3) UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS.—The term
17 “underrepresented groups” means small business
18 concerns located in States with respect to which a
19 low level of SBIR and STTR awards have histori-
20 cally been awarded, small business concerns owned
21 and controlled by women, and small business con-
22 cerns owned and controlled by socially and economi-
23 cally disadvantaged individuals.

24 (4) PARTICIPATING AGENCY.—The term “par-
25 ticipating agency” means a Federal agency carrying

1 out an SBIR or STTR program under section 9 of
2 the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

3 (5) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—The term
4 “small business concern” has the meaning given
5 such term under section 3 of the Small Business Act
6 (15 U.S.C. 632).

7 (6) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN OWNED AND
8 CONTROLLED BY SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY DIS-
9 ADVANTAGED INDIVIDUALS; SMALL BUSINESS CON-
10 CERN OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY WOMEN.—The
11 terms “small business concern owned and controlled
12 by socially and economically disadvantaged individ-
13 uals” and “small business concern owned and con-
14 trolled by women” have the meanings given such
15 terms in section 8(d) of the Small Business Act (15
16 U.S.C. 637(d)).

17 **SEC. 4. EXTEND THE REPORT ON AWARD TIMELINESS.**

18 Section 9(ii)(2)(A) of the Small Business Act (15
19 U.S.C. 638(ii)(2)(A)) is amended—

20 (1) in the matter preceding clause (i), by strik-
21 ing “3 years” and inserting “11 years”;

22 (2) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the end;

23 (3) by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii);

24 and

1 (4) by inserting after clause (i) the following
 2 new clause:

3 “(ii) provides the average and median
 4 amount of time that each Federal agency
 5 with an SBIR or STTR program takes to
 6 review and make a final decision on pro-
 7 posals submitted under the program; and”.

8 **SEC. 5. PILOT PROGRAM TO ACCELERATE NATIONAL INSTI-**
 9 **TUTES OF HEALTH EVALUATION PROCESS.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9(hh) of the Small Busi-
 11 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 638(hh)) is amended by adding at
 12 the end the following new paragraph:

13 “(3) PILOT PROGRAM TO ACCELERATE THE NA-
 14 TIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH SBIR AND STTR
 15 AWARDS.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year
 17 after the date of the enactment of this para-
 18 graph, the Director of the National Institutes of
 19 Health shall establish a pilot program to reduce
 20 the time for awards under the SBIR and STTR
 21 programs of the National Institutes of Health.

22 “(B) AWARD PROCEDURES.—In carrying
 23 out the pilot program under subparagraph (A),
 24 the Director shall develop simplified and stand-
 25 ardized procedures across all relevant awarding

1 offices at the National Institutes of Health and
2 reduce the amount of time between the provi-
3 sion of notice of such awards and the subse-
4 quent release of funding with respect to the
5 awards to be as close to 90 days as possible.

6 “(C) MERIT REVIEW.—

7 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Under the pilot
8 program under subparagraph (A), the Di-
9 rector of the National Institutes of Health
10 may, with respect to awards under the
11 SBIR and STTR programs of the National
12 Institute of Health, use such peer review
13 procedures (including consultation with ap-
14 propriate scientific experts) as the Director
15 determines to be appropriate to obtain as-
16 sessments of scientific and technical merit
17 and potential for commercialization.

18 “(ii) DEEMED.—The use of peer re-
19 view procedures under clause (i) shall be
20 deemed to fulfill any requirements applica-
21 ble to the award under the SBIR or STTR
22 program of the National Institute of
23 Health under sections 406(a)(3)(A) and
24 492 of the Public Health Service Act (42
25 U.S.C. 284a(a)(3)(A); 289a).

1 “(D) TERMINATION.—The pilot program
2 under subparagraph (A) shall terminate on
3 September 30, 2030.”.

4 (b) EVALUATION REPORT.—Not later than three
5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director
6 of the National Institutes of Health shall submit to the
7 Committees on Small Business and Science, Space, and
8 Technology of the House of Representatives and the Com-
9 mittee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the
10 Senate an evaluation of the pilot program established
11 under paragraph (3) of section 9(hh) of the Small Busi-
12 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 638(hh)), as added by subsection (a),
13 including an analysis of the peer review procedures used
14 under subparagraph (C) of such paragraph and the effects
15 on award times.

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