

Street Act of 2023, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to increase the amount that may be invested in small business investment companies.

As a strong supporter of small businesses, I believe that this bill will improve the livelihood of many small businesses that have continuously been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This bill is designed to release more capital investment into small businesses in America.

The bill would allow certain banks and savings associations to invest more into small business investment companies by increasing the statutory cap from 5 percent to 15 percent.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States saw a significant rise in small businesses.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020 had the highest total number of applications for new businesses by far compared to all years that data was available.

From 2019 to 2021, there was a 20 percent increase in the number of small businesses created. That is more than double the average growth rate year to year.

According to the Kauffman Foundation, the increase in the rate of entrepreneurship during the pandemic was highest amongst Blacks, Latinos, and immigrants.

Even though there has been a significant rise in the number of small businesses during the pandemic, many businesses report negative impacts due to COVID.

In April 2020, the U.S. Census Bureau launched the Small Business Pulse Survey to produce data in real-time on the challenges small businesses were facing due to the pandemic.

When the first survey was collected in April of 2020, 90 percent of businesses surveyed stated that the pandemic had a negative effect on business.

When the last survey was collected in April of 2022, 70 percent of businesses surveyed stated that the pandemic had a negative effect on business.

Almost 3 years into the pandemic, small businesses are still struggling with getting back on their feet.

Cities such as New Orleans and Honolulu had some of the highest rates of small business closures in the country because their economies are largely built around serving visitors.

In large cities like San Francisco and Austin, the food industry was largely impacted because those who would typically eat out on their lunch break were now working from home.

The time for small business recovery is now.

The Biden-Harris administration has laid the foundation and has helped create the conditions for business and job creation.

With the evolution of almost 5.4 million small businesses in 2021, we must work to maintain and support these growing businesses.

The Biden-Harris administration partnered with the Small Business Administration (SBA) to reform the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). The policy changes targeted small business and companies that were left out of previous relief efforts.

The data shows that these PPP policy changes provided more support in minority communities than the rounds under the previous administration.

The Small Business Relief under the American Rescue Plan included targeted grant relief and tax credits for small businesses hit by the pandemic.

The Small Business Relief produced immediate relief to more than 600,000 of the hardest hit small businesses.

The Biden-Harris administration was able to provide more than 6 million small businesses with \$450 billion in emergency relief via the Small Business Administration.

Investing more in our small businesses has had a profound impact on the job market in the United States.

In the first 3 quarters of 2021, small businesses with 50 employees or less created almost 2 million jobs in the United States, the fastest start to small business job growth in any year on record.

Investing in main street should continue to be a priority for Congress.

Through this bipartisan bill, certain financial institutions would have the ability to invest more into small business investment companies by raising the statutory cap.

I urge my colleagues to join me and support this important legislation that will expand access to capital, increase the number of small businesses, and create jobs at home.

We must show the American public that improving the economy is a priority in Congress. This bill is a good first step at doing so.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL BOZICK

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2023

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Michael "Mike" Bozick, who passed away on Thursday, December 22, 2022. Mike was a longtime community leader in the Coachella Valley, and he will be deeply missed.

Mike was born and raised in the coal mining town of Masontown, Pennsylvania. A call to serve his country in the Navy ultimately drew Mike to California, where he spent time stationed at North Island Naval Air Station in Coronado. After the Navy, Mike attended San Bernardino Valley College and met his future wife, Bobbie Jean Tidwell. After he earned a business degree from the University of Southern California, Mike worked in the electronic industry. During their time in Los Angeles, Mike and Bobbie had 2 children.

In 1966, Mike went to work at Richard Bagdasarian Inc. in Mecca, a small table grape business, along with Bobbie and her mother, Lucille. Before long, the Bozicks moved to the nearby Coachella Valley to start and grow their own table grape business. In what would become an amazing 53-year career in the grape-growing industry, Mike left his mark as an advocate and leader in the industry. The Bozicks were also incredibly active within their community and gave back in a variety of ways through the decades to Coachella Valley organizations.

Mike is survived by his wife Bobbie, their children, Nick and Cindy, daughter-in-law Stephanie, 4 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. I extend my heartfelt condolences to the entire Bozick family, his friends, and everyone fortunate enough to know Mike. Although he may be gone, the many contributions Mike made to his community and family will have a lasting impact.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF LARRY R. ROGERS, SR.

HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2023

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today we honor the hard work and service of Larry R. Rogers, Sr.

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was one of the founding partners of Power Rogers, a successful and well-respected Chicago-based personal injury law firm;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was the first in his family to become a lawyer, doing so during an era where there were few African American attorneys;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. has served the people by excelling as a trial attorney, winning numerous multimillion-dollar personal injury settlements and verdicts for his clients;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. has been named one of the Ten Most Influential Illinois Lawyers by American Lawyer Media, as well as one of the top 10 litigators in the Nation by National Law Journal;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was presented with the John Paul Stevens Award, the highest award granted by the Chicago Bar Association and presented to attorneys who best exemplify the integrity and public service of late Justice John Paul Stevens;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was presented with the Leonard M. Ring Lifetime Achievement Award, a prestigious honor granted by the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was awarded the Chicago Bar Association's Earl B. Dickerson Award, an honor bestowed to people of color whose careers at the bar show dedication to making the law the key to justice for all;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was elected and served as President of both the Cook County Bar Association and the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, being the first African American President of the latter;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. has been awarded the DePaul University College of Law Alumni Award for Outstanding Service to the Legal Profession;

Whereas, DePaul University College of Law has an endowed scholarship carrying his name, providing tuition assistance for African American law students;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. dedicated his life to serving the people of Chicago and Illinois;

Now, therefore, be it *Resolved*, by the House of Representatives of the United States of America that the hard work and service of Larry R. Rogers, Sr. be remembered and honored.

CONGRATULATING VANESSA
WYCHE, DIRECTOR OF NASA
JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2023

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an exceptional public servant. NASA Johnson Space Center Director Vanessa Wyche, on receiving the prestigious Quasar Award for Economic Development Excellence from the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership (BAHEP). BAHEP presents its renowned Quasar Award to an outstanding elected official or business leader who has demonstrated a strong and continual effort to support the business foundations of the greater Bay Area Houston communities.

Serving as the 13th Director of Johnson Space Center (JSC), Vanessa Wyche oversees the home of America's astronaut corps, Mission Control Center, International Space Station, Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory, Orion and Gateway programs, and the more than 11,000 civil servants and contractors in Houston and the White Sands Test Facility in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Among her many responsibilities, Wyche manages a broad range of human spaceflight activities, including the development and operation of human spacecraft, commercialization of low-Earth orbit, and JSC's role in landing the next American on the surface of the Moon. Under her leadership, JSC was recognized by Forbes and Statista as the number one best employer among Texas' major employers.

Vanessa previously served as deputy director at JSC for 3 years, starting in 2018. Her previous leadership positions include assistant and acting deputy director of JSC, director of the Exploration Integration and Science Directorate, flight manager of several missions of the Space Shuttle Program, executive officer in the Office of the NASA Administrator, and led several other center-level technical and program organizations. Prior to joining NASA, Vanessa worked for the Food and Drug Administration in Washington, D.C.

Director Wyche is a native of South Carolina, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Engineering and a Master of Science in Bioengineering from Clemson University. In 2019, she was inducted into the Thomas Green Clemson Academy of Engineers and Scientists at Clemson University. As a dedicated advocate for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, Vanessa serves as a member of Clemson University's College of Engineering, Computing and Ap-

plied Sciences advisory board, the University of Houston's C. T. Bauer College of Business advisory panel, and is a past chair of the Space Center Houston board of directors. Additionally, she received an Honorary Doctorate of Science degree from Coastal Carolina University in 2022.

Throughout her distinguished career, Vanessa has been recognized for her outstanding service. She is the recipient of the Presidential Rank Award, 2 NASA Outstanding Leadership Medals, 2 NASA Achievement Medals, a JSC Innovation award, a Woman at NASA award, a Rotary Stellar Nomination, a national Women Worth Watching honoree, and a Coastal Carolina University Inspiring Woman nomination. Vanessa is an American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Associate Fellow and completed the International Women's Forum Fellows Program.

Vanessa Wyche is married to George Wyche Jr., Esq., and has one son, George Wyche III.

It is a distinct honor to congratulate my friend, Vanessa Wyche, for receiving the esteemed Quasar Award. She is an outstanding leader who has served both the Bay Area and America's space program exceptionally. I look forward to our continued work to take us back to the Moon, and in the near future, Mars. Onward and upward.

**POST-DISASTER ASSISTANCE
ONLINE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 259 and I am pleased to explain why all members should vote in support of this bill—To provide for an online repository for certain reporting requirements for recipients of Federal disaster assistance.

This bill would require the Office of Management and Budget to establish an online repository to publish information on the total amount of disaster assistance provided as a result of natural disasters each year.

It is imperative that the American public is made aware of how much money is spent each year on federal disaster assistance; and especially by those caused by climate change.

Climate change is here, and extreme weather has become the new normal.

In February 2021 Winter Storm Uri swapped through Texas and across the nation.

Over 154 million people, roughly half of the country, was in subfreezing temperatures. The storm crippled Texas with temperatures as low as 6 degrees.

The debilitating temperatures overwhelmed the power grid, damaged Texas roadways, and left 2.8 million Texans without power.

Winter Storm Uri was the costliest natural disaster in Texas history causing over \$195 billion in damages.

As a member of the Budget Committee, I understand the importance of providing clarity to the American public about how much money is being spent as a result of natural disasters.

The devastation that occurred in Houston serves as a reminder that states must be ready for natural disasters, safety measures must be effectively planned to prevent casualties and damages, and careful reviewing of recipients needing assistance must be documented for reasons that include:

Detailed accounting of parties that are requesting and have requested assistance.

Transparent accounting of transactions and deposits from parties that are requesting and have requested assistance.

Retrievable access of all information listed for future planning and budgeting for capital spending.

In addition, H.R. 259 will serve as an integral building block towards achieving this objective for the benefit of information allocation from recipients who have received assistance and who have not, accurate predictions of resources plus capital transfers to the respected parties that are requesting assistance and for those that do not require assistance.

H.R. 259 encapsulates and provides the necessary and critical application of planning that needs to be implemented.

Keeping record of federal assistance should be dealt with importance as this keeps our budget in check and trackable. Further, it allows us to be responsible and cognizant of our spending.

Quite frankly, it is a central part of our job as Members of Congress to advocate and push forth ways to protect our citizens, our states, and future advancements. To do so requires thoughtful planning and H.R. 259 exemplifies these core principles.

With the support of this bill, we can help reinforce and modernize our systems for more efficient, accountable, and transparent record keeping for how and to whom we provide with federal assistance.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of H.R. 259, "To provide for an online repository for certain reporting requirements for recipients of Federal disaster assistance, and for other purposes."