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(Original Signature of Member)

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Small Business Act to provide for the permanent establishment of the State Trade and Export Promotion Grant Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LARSEN of Washington (for himself and Mr. REICHERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to provide for the permanent establishment of the State Trade and Export Promotion Grant Program, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Next STEP Act of
5 2013”.

1 **SEC. 2. STATE TRADE AND EXPORT PROMOTION GRANT**
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is
4 amended—

5 (1) by redesigning section 47 as section 48;

6 (2) by inserting after section 46 the following:

7 **“SEC. 47. STATE TRADE AND EXPORT PROMOTION GRANT**
8 **PROGRAM.**

9 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

10 “(1) the term ‘eligible small business concern’
11 means a small business concern that—

12 “(A) has been in business for not less than
13 the 1-year period ending on the date on which
14 assistance is provided using a grant under this
15 section;

16 “(B) is operating profitably, based on op-
17 erations in the United States;

18 “(C) has demonstrated understanding of
19 the costs associated with exporting and doing
20 business with foreign purchasers, including the
21 costs of freight forwarding, customs brokers,
22 packing and shipping, as determined by the As-
23 sociate Administrator; and

24 “(D) has in effect a strategic plan for ex-
25 porting;

1 “(2) the term ‘program’ means the State Trade
2 and Export Promotion Grant Program established
3 under subsection (b);

4 “(3) the term ‘small business concern owned
5 and controlled by women’ has the meaning given
6 that term in section 3;

7 “(4) the term ‘socially and economically dis-
8 advantaged small business concern’ has the meaning
9 given that term in section 8(a)(4)(A); and

10 “(5) the term ‘State’ means each of the several
11 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth
12 of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the
13 Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

14 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Associate
15 Administrator for International Trade appointed under
16 section 22(a)(2) (hereinafter in this section referred to as
17 the ‘Associate Administrator’) shall establish a trade and
18 export promotion program to be known as the State Trade
19 and Export Promotion Grant Program, to make grants
20 to States to carry out export programs that assist eligible
21 small business concerns in—

22 “(1) participation in a foreign trade mission;

23 “(2) a foreign market sales trip;

24 “(3) a subscription to services provided by the
25 Department of Commerce;

1 “(4) the payment of website translation fees;

2 “(5) the design of international marketing
3 media;

4 “(6) a trade show exhibition;

5 “(7) participation in training workshops; or

6 “(8) any other export initiative determined ap-
7 propriate by the Associate Administrator.

8 “(c) GRANTS.—

9 “(1) JOINT REVIEW.—In carrying out the pro-
10 gram, the Associate Administrator may make a
11 grant to a State to increase the number of eligible
12 small business concerns in the State that export or
13 to increase the value of the exports by eligible small
14 business concerns in the State.

15 “(2) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this
16 section, the Associate Administrator may give pri-
17 ority to an application by a State that proposes a
18 program that—

19 “(A) focuses on eligible small business con-
20 cerns as part of an export promotion program;

21 “(B) demonstrates success in promoting
22 exports by—

23 “(i) socially and economically dis-
24 advantaged small business concerns;

1 “(ii) small business concerns owned or
2 controlled by women; and

3 “(iii) rural small business concerns;

4 “(C) promotes exports from a State that is
5 not 1 of the 10 States with the highest percent-
6 age of exporters that are small business con-
7 cerns, based upon the latest data available from
8 the Department of Commerce; and

9 “(D) promotes new-to-market export op-
10 portunities to the People’s Republic of China
11 for eligible small business concerns in the
12 United States.

13 “(3) LIMITATIONS.—

14 “(A) SINGLE APPLICATION.—A State may
15 not submit more than 1 application for a grant
16 under the program in any 1 fiscal year.

17 “(B) PROPORTION OF AMOUNTS.—The
18 total value of grants under the program made
19 during a fiscal year to the 10 States with the
20 highest number of exporters that are small
21 business concerns, based upon the latest data
22 available from the Department of Commerce,
23 shall be not more than 40 percent of the
24 amounts appropriated for the program for that
25 fiscal year.

1 “(4) APPLICATION.—A State desiring a grant
2 under the program shall submit an application at
3 such time, in such manner, and accompanied by
4 such information as the Associate Administrator
5 may establish.

6 “(d) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—The Associate Adminis-
7 trator shall award grants under the program on a competi-
8 tive basis.

9 “(e) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the
10 cost of an export program carried out using a grant under
11 the program shall be—

12 “(1) for a State that has a high export volume,
13 as determined by the Associate Administrator, not
14 more than 65 percent; and

15 “(2) for a State that does not have a high ex-
16 port volume, as determined by the Associate Admin-
17 istrator, not more than 75 percent.

18 “(f) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share
19 of the cost of an export program carried using a grant
20 under the program shall be comprised of not less than 50
21 percent cash and not more than 50 percent of indirect
22 costs and in-kind contributions, except that no such costs
23 or contributions may be derived from funds from any
24 other Federal program.

1 “(g) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Associate Adminis-
2 trator shall submit an annual report to the Committee on
3 Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and
4 the Committee on Small Business of the House of Rep-
5 resentatives regarding the program, which shall include—

6 “(1) the number and amount of grants made
7 under the program during the preceding year;

8 “(2) a list of the States receiving a grant under
9 the program during the preceding year, including
10 the activities being performed with grant; and

11 “(3) the effect of each grant on exports by eligi-
12 ble small business concerns in the State receiving
13 the grant.

14 “(h) PUBLIC WEB SITE.—The Associate Adminis-
15 trator shall establish and maintain, on a publicly acces-
16 sible Internet Web site of the Administration—

17 “(1) a list of each grant awarded under the
18 program, the amount of the grant, and the identity
19 of the grantee State; and

20 “(2) grant management guidance for recipients
21 including required forms, no-cost extension and car-
22 rryover information, and a schedule for reimburse-
23 ments to recipients.

24 “(i) ENHANCED REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The
25 Associate Administrator shall—

1 “(1) document and maintain all analyses, eval-
2 uations, and rationales used to award grants under
3 this section;

4 “(2) ensure that the goals of recipients of those
5 grants are consistent with the purposes of this sec-
6 tion and hold them accountable for adhering to re-
7 porting requirements established under this section;

8 “(3) perform reviews of quarterly reports sub-
9 mitted by grant recipients under this section.

10 “(4) in cases where grant recipients do not pro-
11 posed performance goals, require grant recipients to
12 provide the Associate Administrator with revised
13 work plans and budget estimates to meet that goals.

14 “(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
16 appropriated for each of the fiscal years such sums
17 as may be necessary to carry out this Act and the
18 amendments made by this Act.

19 “(2) OTHER AMOUNTS.—Amounts appropriated
20 pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in
21 paragraph (1) shall be in addition to the amounts
22 otherwise available to carry out this Act and the
23 amendments made by this Act.

24 “(3) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated
25 pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in

1 paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available
2 until expended.”.

3 **SEC. 3. REPEAL OF PILOT PROGRAM.**

4 Section 1207 of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010
5 (15 U.S.C.) is hereby repealed.