

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish the Emergency Micro-enterprise Recovery Grant Pilot Program, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Ms. HIRONO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish the Emergency Micro-enterprise Recovery Grant Pilot 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 “Micro-enterprise As-  
5 sistance and Urgent Investment for Supporting Trade,  
6 Recovery Operations, and Neighborhood Growth Act” or  
7 the “MAUI STRONG Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EMERGENCY MICRO-ENTERPRISE RECOVERY**  
2 **GRANT PILOT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-  
5 trator” means the Administrator of the Small Busi-  
6 ness Administration.

7 (2) COVERED PERIOD.—The term “covered pe-  
8 riod” means the period beginning on August 1,  
9 2023, and ending on December 31, 2024.

10 (3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-  
11 ty” means an entity operating on or after August 8,  
12 2023, on the island of Maui that—

13 (A) is a private nonprofit organization; or

14 (B) experienced revenue loss between Au-  
15 gust 8, 2023, and December 31, 2023, and is—

16 (i) a small agricultural cooperative (as  
17 defined in section 3(j) of the Small Busi-  
18 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 632(j)));

19 (ii) a business with not more than 25  
20 employees;

21 (iii) any individual who operates  
22 under a sole proprietorship or as an inde-  
23 pendent contractor; or

24 (iv) a corporation—

25 (I) all of the stock of which is  
26 owned by an employee stock owner-

1 ship plan (as defined in section  
2 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue  
3 Code of 1986); and

4 (II) with not more than 100 em-  
5 ployees.

6 (4) PROGRAM.—The term “program” means  
7 the Emergency Micro-enterprise Recovery Grant  
8 Pilot Program established under this section.

9 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 60 days after  
10 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall  
11 establish the “Emergency Micro-enterprise Recovery  
12 Grant Pilot Program” to award grants to eligible entities  
13 during the covered period.

14 (c) VERIFICATION.—To receive a grant under this  
15 section, an eligible entity shall submit to the Adminis-  
16 trator an application at such time and in such manner  
17 as the Administrator may reasonably require, which shall  
18 contain a self-certification to verify that the entity submit-  
19 ting the application is an eligible entity.

20 (d) ORDER OF CONSIDERATION.—The Administrator  
21 shall consider an application for a grant under this section  
22 in the order in which the application is received.

23 (e) AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant provided to an  
24 eligible entity under this section may not exceed \$20,000.

1 (f) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity receiving a  
2 grant under this section shall use the grant amounts to—

3 (1) address any allowable purpose for a loan  
4 made under section 7(b)(2) of the Small Business  
5 Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)(2));

6 (2) maintain payroll;

7 (3) purchase materials or equipment;

8 (4) make rent or mortgage payments; or

9 (5) pay for obligations that cannot be met due  
10 to revenue losses.

11 (g) TERMINATION.—The authority to award grants  
12 under this section shall terminate on December 31, 2024.

13 (h) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date  
14 of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit  
15 to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneur-  
16 ship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business  
17 of the House of Representatives a report evaluating the  
18 impact of the program.

19 (i) TAX EXEMPTION.—For purposes of the Internal  
20 Revenue Code of 1986—

21 (1) any grant made under this section shall not  
22 be included in the gross income of the person that  
23 receives that grant; and

24 (2) no deduction shall be denied, no tax at-  
25 tribute shall be reduced, and no basis increase shall

1       be denied by reason of the exclusion from gross in-  
2       come provided under paragraph (1) of this sub-  
3       section.

4       (j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
5       authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator  
6       \$30,000,000 to carry out this section.