

Calendar No. 487

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4487

To require the Secretary of Commerce to develop artificial intelligence training resources and toolkits for United States small businesses, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 11, 2024

Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mr. MORAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

AUGUST 1, 2024

Reported by Ms. CANTWELL, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Commerce to develop artificial intelligence training resources and toolkits for United States 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Small Business Artifi-
5 cial Intelligence Training and Toolkit Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TRAINING RESOURCES**
2 **AND TOOLKITS FOR SMALL BUSINESS CON-**
3 **CERNS.**

4 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
6 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
7 gress” means—

8 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
9 and Transportation and the Committee on
10 Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the
11 Senate; and

12 (B) the Committee on Science, Space, and
13 Technology and the Committee on Small Busi-
14 ness of the House of Representatives.

15 (2) ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.—The term “ar-
16 tificial intelligence” has the meaning given such
17 term in section 5002 of the William M. (Mac)
18 Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for
19 Fiscal Year 2021 (15 U.S.C. 9401).

20 (3) CENTER.—The term “Center” has the
21 meaning given such term in section 25(a) of the Na-
22 tional Institute of Standards and Technology Act
23 (15 U.S.C. 278k(a)).

24 (4) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
25 the Director of the National Institute of Standards
26 and Technology.

1 (5) HOLLINGS MANUFACTURING EXTENSION
2 PARTNERSHIP.—The term “Hollings Manufacturing
3 Extension Partnership” has the meaning given such
4 term in section 25(a) of the National Institute of
5 Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278k(a)).

6 (6) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian Tribe”
7 has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the
8 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
9 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

10 (7) KEY EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.—The term
11 “key emerging technologies” means the technologies
12 included in the initial list of key technology focus
13 areas set forth by section 10387(e) of the Research
14 and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act
15 (42 U.S.C. 19107(e)), photonics, and electronics.

16 (8) RURAL COMMUNITY.—The term “rural
17 community” means a community that is located in
18 areas that are not classified as urban by the Bureau
19 of the Census.

20 (9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
21 the Secretary of Commerce.

22 (10) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—The term
23 “small business concern” has the meaning given
24 such term in section 3(a) of the Small Business Act
25 (15 U.S.C. 632(a)).

1 (b) DEVELOPMENT OF TRAINING RESOURCES AND
2 TOOLKITS REQUIRED.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
5 shall, acting through the Director, the Hollings
6 Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and the Cen-
7 ters and in consultation and coordination with the
8 Administrator of the Small Business Administration,
9 the Secretary of Agriculture, and such persons in
10 the private sector as the Secretary of Commerce con-
11 siders appropriate, develop training resources and
12 toolkits for small business concerns, including small
13 business concerns located in rural, Tribal, or under-
14 served communities or involved in advanced manu-
15 facturing, relating to the adoption and use of artifi-
16 cial intelligence and such other key emerging tech-
17 nologies, such as quantum-hybrid computing, as the
18 Secretary considers appropriate.

19 (2) CONTENTS.—The training and toolkits de-
20 veloped under paragraph (1) shall include prompt
21 engineering and the use of artificial intelligence or
22 emerging technologies, such as quantum hybrid
23 tools, relating to access to credit and capital, finan-
24 cial management and accounting, business planning
25 and operations, cybersecurity, marketing, supply

1 chain management, government contracting, and ex-
2 porting.

3 (c) REVIEW AND UPDATE OF TRAINING RESOURCES
4 AND TOOLKITS.—Not later than 2 years after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, and not less frequently than
6 once every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary shall—

7 (1) review the training resources and toolkits
8 developed pursuant to subsection (b); and

9 (2) update such resources and toolkits as the
10 Secretary considers appropriate.

11 (d) DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF TRAINING RE-
12 SOURCES AND TOOLKITS.—The Secretary shall coordinate
13 with the Administrator of the Small Business Administra-
14 tion on the distribution and use of the training resources
15 and toolkits that are developed pursuant to subsection (b)
16 through the resource partners of the Small Business Ad-
17 ministration, including small business development cen-
18 ters, women business centers, SCORE, veteran business
19 opportunity centers, and the Apex Accelerator.

20 (e) GRANTS PROGRAM.—

21 (1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may carry out
22 a program on the award of grants to persons pro-
23 viding training relating to artificial intelligence to
24 small business concerns using the training resources
25 developed under subsection (b).

1 (2) GIFT AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may re-
2 ceive gifts that the Secretary shall use to carry out
3 paragraph (1).

4 (f) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

5 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
7 retary shall submit to the appropriate committees of
8 Congress a report on the development, distribution,
9 and use of the training resources and toolkits devel-
10 oped pursuant to subsection (b).

11 (2) BIENNIAL REPORTS.—

12 (A) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than
13 3 years after the date of the enactment of this
14 Act, and not less frequently than once every 2
15 years thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to
16 appropriate committees of Congress a biennial
17 report on the development, distribution, and use
18 of training resources and toolkits developed
19 pursuant to subsection (b).

20 (B) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted to
21 subparagraph (A) shall include, for the period
22 of covered by the report, the following:

23 (i) A list of the training resources and
24 toolkits developed pursuant to subsection
25 (b).

1 (ii) A description of the measurable
 2 outcomes of the distribution of such train-
 3 ing resources and toolkits, including the
 4 following:

5 (I) The number and type of small
 6 business concerns using such training
 7 resources and toolkits.

8 (II) The effect of such use on the
 9 revenues, sales, and workforces of the
 10 small business concerns.

11 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

12 *This Act may be cited as the “Small Business Artifi-*
 13 *cial Intelligence Training Act of 2024”.*

14 **SEC. 2. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TRAINING RESOURCES**
 15 **FOR SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.**

16 (a) *DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

17 (1) *APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—*

18 *The term “appropriate committees of Congress”*
 19 *means—*

20 (A) *the Committee on Commerce, Science,*
 21 *and Transportation and the Committee on Small*
 22 *Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate;*
 23 *and*

1 (B) *the Committee on Science, Space, and*
2 *Technology and the Committee on Small Busi-*
3 *ness of the House of Representatives.*

4 (2) *ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.—The term “arti-*
5 *ficial intelligence” has the meaning given such term*
6 *in section 5002 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry*
7 *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year*
8 *2021 (15 U.S.C. 9401).*

9 (3) *CENTER.—The term “Center” has the mean-*
10 *ing given such term in section 25(a) of the National*
11 *Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C.*
12 *278k(a)).*

13 (4) *DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the*
14 *Director of the National Institute of Standards and*
15 *Technology.*

16 (5) *HOLLINGS MANUFACTURING EXTENSION*
17 *PARTNERSHIP.—The term “Hollings Manufacturing*
18 *Extension Partnership” has the meaning given such*
19 *term in section 25(a) of the National Institute of*
20 *Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278k(a)).*

21 (6) *INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian Tribe”*
22 *has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the In-*
23 *Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance*
24 *Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).*

1 (7) *KEY EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.*—*The term*
2 *“key emerging technologies” means the technologies*
3 *included in the initial list of key technology focus*
4 *areas set forth by section 10387(c) of the Research*
5 *and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act*
6 *(42 U.S.C. 19107(c)), photonics, and electronics.*

7 (8) *RURAL COMMUNITY.*—*The term “rural com-*
8 *munity” means a community that is located in areas*
9 *that are not classified as urban by the Bureau of the*
10 *Census.*

11 (9) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
12 *the Secretary of Commerce.*

13 (10) *SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.*—*The term*
14 *“small business concern” has the meaning given such*
15 *term in section 3(a) of the Small Business Act (15*
16 *U.S.C. 632(a)).*

17 (b) *DEVELOPMENT OF TRAINING RESOURCES RE-*
18 *QUIRED.*—

19 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 1 year after*
20 *the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary*
21 *shall, acting through the Director, the Hollings Manu-*
22 *facturing Extension Partnership, and the Centers and*
23 *in consultation and coordination with the Adminis-*
24 *trator of the Small Business Administration, the Sec-*
25 *retary of Agriculture, and such persons in the private*

1 *sector as the Secretary of Commerce considers appro-*
2 *prate, develop training resources for small business*
3 *concerns, including small business concerns located in*
4 *rural, Tribal, or underserved communities or involved*
5 *in advanced manufacturing, relating to the adoption*
6 *and use of artificial intelligence and such other key*
7 *emerging technologies, such as quantum-hybrid com-*
8 *puting, as the Secretary considers appropriate.*

9 (2) *CONTENTS.—The training resources devel-*
10 *oped under paragraph (1) shall include prompt engi-*
11 *neering and the use of artificial intelligence or emerg-*
12 *ing technologies, such as quantum hybrid tools, relat-*
13 *ing to access to credit and capital, financial manage-*
14 *ment and accounting, business planning and oper-*
15 *ations, cybersecurity, marketing, supply chain man-*
16 *agement, government contracting, and exporting.*

17 (c) *REVIEW AND UPDATE OF TRAINING RESOURCES.—*
18 *Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment*
19 *of this Act, and not less frequently than once each year*
20 *thereafter, the Secretary shall, in consultation with the Ad-*
21 *ministrator of the Small Business Administration—*

22 (1) *review the training resources developed pur-*
23 *suant to subsection (b); and*

24 (2) *update such resources as the Secretary con-*
25 *siders appropriate.*

1 (d) *DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF TRAINING RE-*
2 *SOURCES.*—*The Secretary shall coordinate with the Admin-*
3 *istrator of the Small Business Administration on the dis-*
4 *tribution and use of the training resources that are devel-*
5 *oped pursuant to subsection (b) through the resource part-*
6 *ners of the Small Business Administration, including small*
7 *business development centers, women business centers,*
8 *SCORE, veteran business opportunity centers, and the*
9 *Apex Accelerator.*

10 (e) *GRANTS PROGRAM.*—*The Secretary may, in coordi-*
11 *nation with the Administrator of the Small Business Ad-*
12 *ministration, carry out a program on the award of grants*
13 *to persons providing training relating to artificial intel-*
14 *ligence to small business concerns using the training re-*
15 *sources developed under subsection (b).*

16 (f) *REPORTS TO CONGRESS.*—

17 (1) *INITIAL REPORT.*—*Not later than 1 year*
18 *after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-*
19 *retary shall submit to the appropriate committees of*
20 *Congress a report on the development, distribution,*
21 *and use of the training resources developed pursuant*
22 *to subsection (b).*

23 (2) *ANNUAL REPORTS.*—

24 (A) *REPORTS REQUIRED.*—*Not later than 2*
25 *years after the date of the enactment of this Act,*

1 *and not less frequently than once each year*
2 *thereafter, the Secretary shall, in consultation*
3 *with the Administrator of the Small Business*
4 *Administration, submit to appropriate commit-*
5 *tees of Congress an annual report on the develop-*
6 *ment, distribution, and use of training resources*
7 *developed pursuant to subsection (b).*

8 *(B) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted to*
9 *subparagraph (A) shall include, for the period of*
10 *covered by the report, the following:*

11 *(i) A list of the training resources de-*
12 *veloped pursuant to subsection (b).*

13 *(ii) A description of the measurable*
14 *outcomes of the distribution of such training*
15 *resources, including the following:*

16 *(I) The number and type of small*
17 *business concerns using such training*
18 *resources.*

19 *(II) The effect of such use on the*
20 *revenues, sales, and workforces of the*
21 *small business concerns.*

22 *(g) SUNSET.—The authorities and requirements under*
23 *this section shall terminate on the date that is 3 years after*
24 *the date of the enactment of this Act.*

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August 1, 2024

Reported with an amendment