

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to reauthorize and expand the Rural Innovation Stronger Economy grant program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to reauthorize and expand the Rural Innovation Stronger Economy grant program.

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 “Rural Innovation
5 Stronger Economy (RISE) Reauthorization Act of 2026”.

1 SEC. 2. RURAL INNOVATION STRONGER ECONOMY GRANT**2 PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION AND EXPAN-****3 SION.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 379I of the Consolidated
5 Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008w) is
6 amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)—

8 (A) in paragraph (1)—

9 (i) in subparagraph (A)(i)—

10 (I) by striking “the industry clus-
11 ters that are objectively identified as”;
12 and

13 (II) by inserting “industries in
14 the area served by the partnership”
15 after “declining”; and

16 (ii) in subparagraph (B)(ii)—

17 (I) by striking subclause (I); and
18 (II) by redesignating subclauses
19 (II) through (IV) as subclauses (I)
20 through (III), respectively;

21 (B) by striking paragraph (2); and

22 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (3)
23 through (5) as paragraphs (2) through (4), re-
24 spectively;

25 (2) in subsection (b)—

26 (A) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs
2 (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respec-
3 tively, and indenting the clauses appro-
4 priately;

5 (ii) in clause (ii) (as so redesignated),
6 by striking “opportunities, networks, and
7 industry clusters” and inserting “opportu-
8 nities and networks”;

9 (iii) by striking the paragraph des-
10 ignation and heading and all that follows
11 through “The Secretary” in the matter
12 preceding clause (i) (as so redesignated)
13 and inserting the following:

14 “(1) GRANT PROGRAM.—

16 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-
17 lowing:

7 (B) in paragraph (3)—

8 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

9 (I) by redesignating clauses (i)
10 and (ii) as subclauses (I) and (II), re-
11 spectively, and indenting the sub-
12 clauses appropriately; and

13 (II) in subclause (II) (as so re-
14 designated), by striking “industry
15 cluster”;

16 (ii) by striking subparagraph (C);

17 (iii) in subparagraph (D), by striking
18 “industry clusters.”;

19 (iv) by redesignating subparagraphs
20 (A), (B), (D), (E), and (F) as clauses (i),
21 (ii), (iii), (iv), and (v), respectively, and in-
22 denting the clauses appropriately; and

23 (v) in the matter preceding clause (i)
24 (as so redesignated), by striking "shall

1 consider—” and inserting the following:

2 “shall—

3 “(A) ensure that a diverse set of industry

4 bases is represented;

5 “(B) only select an eligible entity to receive

6 a grant with the concurrence of the applicable

7 State office of the rural development mission

8 area; and

9 “(C) take into consideration—”;

10 (3) in subsection (d)(1)—

11 (A) in subparagraph (A), by adding “and”

12 after the semicolon at the end; and

13 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

14 (i) in clause (i), by striking “industry

15 clusters,”;

16 (ii) in clause (vii), by striking “small

17 businesses in regional industry clusters, in-

18 cluding”;

19 (iii) in clause (ix), by striking “in the

20 identified industry clusters”; and

21 (iv) in clause (x), by striking “indus-

22 try cluster”;

23 (4) in subsection (e)(2)(B)—

24 (A) in clause (viii)—

1 (i) in subclause (I), by striking “in-
2 dustry cluster” and inserting “activities
3 funded with the grant”; and

4 (ii) in subclause (II), by striking “held
5 by the industry cluster” and inserting “re-
6 lating to those activities convened by rel-
7 evant organizations”;

8 (B) in clauses (xi) and (xii), by striking
9 “industry cluster” each place it appears and in-
10 serting “participating regional”; and

11 (C) in clause (xiii), by striking “the project
12 activities” and inserting “activities funded with
13 the grant”; and

14 (5) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the
15 following:

16 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
17 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
18 \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2031.”.

19 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
20 6306(h)(3)(B)(ii) of the Agriculture Improvement Act of
21 2018 (7 U.S.C. 2204b-3(h)(3)(B)(ii)) is amended, in the
22 matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “section
23 379I(a)(4) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Develop-
24 ment Act” and inserting “section 379I(a) of the Consoli-

1 dated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C.
2 2008w(a))".