

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

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

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

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”.

6 **SEC. 2. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TRAINING RESOURCES**

7 **AND TOOLKITS FOR SMALL BUSINESS CON-**
8 **CERNS.**

9 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

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

4 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
5 and Transportation and the Committee on
6 Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the
7 Senate; and

8 (B) the Committee on Science, Space, and
9 Technology and the Committee on Small Busi-
10 ness of the House of Representatives.

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

16 (3) CENTER.—The term “Center” has the
17 meaning given such term in section 25(a) of the Na-
18 tional Institute of Standards and Technology Act
19 (15 U.S.C. 278k(a)).

20 (4) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
21 the Director of the National Institute of Standards
22 and Technology.

23 (5) HOLLINGS MANUFACTURING EXTENSION
24 PARTNERSHIP.—The term “Hollings Manufacturing
25 Extension Partnership” has the meaning given such

1 term in section 25(a) of the National Institute of
2 Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278k(a)).

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

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

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

17 (9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
18 the Secretary of Commerce.

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

23 (b) DEVELOPMENT OF TRAINING RESOURCES AND
24 TOOLKITS REQUIRED.—

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

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

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

5 (1) review the training resources and toolkits
6 developed pursuant to subsection (b); and

7 (2) update such resources and toolkits as the
8 Secretary considers appropriate.

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

18 (e) GRANTS PROGRAM.—

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