

HR 4319

Assistance for Small and Medium Enterprises in Sub-Saharan African Countries Act of 2005

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Nov 15, 2005

Current Status: Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee by Voice Vote .

Latest Action: Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee by Voice Vote . (Jun 22, 2006)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/house-bill/4319>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lantos, Tom [D-CA-12]

Party: Democratic • State: CA • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]	R · NJ		Nov 15, 2005
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Jan 31, 2006
Rep. Wynn, Albert Russell [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Jan 31, 2006
Rep. Moran, James P. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Mar 7, 2006

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Reported by	Jun 22, 2006
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 15, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Assistance for Small and Medium Enterprises in Sub-Saharan African Countries Act of 2005 - Amends the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) to provide technical assistance to small and medium enterprises in sub-Saharan African countries.

Authorizes the President, through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), to provide assistance to small and medium enterprises in such countries for: (1) financial sector improvement; (2) financial institution lending programs; (3) technology and information resources; (4) rural and peri-urban business development; (5) small business development in post-conflict states; (6) youth entrepreneurship programs; (7) intellectual property rights protection; and (8) anti-corruption initiatives.

Directs: (1) the U.S. Trade Representative to develop a comprehensive plan to expand agricultural trade between sub-Saharan African countries and the United States under the African Growth and Opportunity Act; (2) the Secretary of State to undertake actions to strengthen internationally recognized labor rights and standards in sub-Saharan African countries; (3) the Secretary of Labor to undertake activities to promote social dialog among business, government, labor, and nongovernmental organizations; (4) the Secretary of Health and Human Services, through the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), to provide training and technical assistance to producers to ensure that their exports meet U.S. requirements; (5) the Secretary of Agriculture, through the Foreign Agriculture Service, to undertake activities to improve market access for U.S. agricultural products in sub-Saharan African countries; (6) the President, through USAID, to provide technical assistance to eligible sub-Saharan countries to meet African Growth and Opportunity Act eligibility requirements, and to provide such countries with transportation and communications infrastructure; and (7) the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to conduct trade training programs for U.S. small businesses which convey basic information on selling goods to foreign markets, including markets in sub-Saharan African countries.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Jun 22, 2006:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 22, 2006:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee by Voice Vote .
- **Jun 21, 2006:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations.
- **Nov 15, 2005:** Introduced in House
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- **Nov 15, 2005:** Referred to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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