

S 2757

HELP for Small Businesses Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Commerce

Introduced: Oct 31, 2019

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 628.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 628. (Dec 15, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2757>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Lankford, James [R-OK]

Party: Republican • **State:** OK • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Oct 31, 2019
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		Oct 31, 2019
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Oct 31, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Dec 15, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Commerce

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Dec 15, 2020)

Harmless Error Lesser Penalty for Small Businesses Act or the HELP for Small Businesses Act

This bill prohibits an agency from imposing a civil fine on a small business for a first-time paperwork violation, with the exceptions that the agency may levy a fine for a violation that (1) interferes with the detection of criminal activity; (2) contravenes an internal revenue law; or (3) endangers public health, safety, or the environment. However, an agency must track each first-time violation and report each waiver or reduction of a civil penalty for the violation.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 15, 2020:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Reported by Senator Johnson with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 116-326.
- **Dec 15, 2020:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 628.
- **Mar 11, 2020:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Oct 31, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 31, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.