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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration to establish a Tariffs and Refunds Hotline, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CISNEROS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration to establish a Tariffs and Refunds Hotline, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Small Business Tariff Relief Hotline Act''.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF TARIFFS AND REFUNDS HOTLINE.

Section 203 of Public Law 94–305 (15 U.S.C. 634c) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) TARIFFS AND REFUNDS HOTLINE.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Chief Counsel for Advocacy shall—

''(A) establish a hotline to be known as the 'Tariffs and Refunds Hotline' to provide a direct method for small entities to submit to the Chief Counsel a notification related to—

''(i) a tariff-related activity conducted by the executive branch that affects such small entity;

''(ii) an issue with respect to receiving relief related to a tariff; or

''(iii) a financial or administrative burden from complying with a tariff on an import;

''(B) establish an email address, submission form, phone number, or such other method as determined appropriate by the Chief Counsel for small entities to submit such notifications to such hotline; and

''(C) establish a website providing such email address, submission form, phone number, or other method in a manner that is easily accessible.

''(2) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter, the Chief Counsel shall submit to the Administrator of the Small Business Administration and to Congress a report on the Tariffs and Refunds Hotline that includes—

''(A) the tariff-related activities with respect to which notifications were submitted under paragraph (1);

''(B) the number of such notifications received;

''(C) which industry sectors were affected by such tariff-related activities;

''(D) a summary and analysis of such notifications, including—

''(i) the types of small entities that submitted such notifications;

''(ii) the geographic areas where such small entities are based and the industry sector of such small entities;

''(iii) the types of tariff-related activities that impose a burden on small entities, including any estimated financial or administrative burdens; and

''(iv) any significant concerns;

''(E) an identification of the agency or entity responsible for each tariff-related activity for which a notification was received;

''(F) any recommendations for actions to be taken by such agency or entity to—

''(i) minimize the burden of such tariff-related activities on small entities; and

''(ii) to improve the administration of tariff refunds to small entities; and

''(G) a summary of any action taken by the Chief Counsel of the Office of Advocacy in response to a significant concern.

''(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

''(A) the term 'agency' has the meaning given such term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code;

''(B) the term 'significant concern' means—

''(i) a concern raised by multiple small entities in multiple notifications submitted under paragraph (1); or

''(ii) a concern that the Chief Counsel determines to be significant;

''(C) the term 'small entity' means a—

''(i) a small business (as such term is defined in section 601 of title 5, United States Code);

''(ii) a small organization (as such term is defined in such section); or

''(iii) a small governmental jurisdiction (as such term is defined in such section); and

''(D) the term 'tariff-related activity' means the imposition of a tariff or any other activity related to tariffs, including refunds, rebates, relief, exclusions, exemptions, waivers, or credits.''.