

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2603

To amend the Small Business Act to ensure that the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is eligible for certain Small Business Administration programs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 8, 2019

Mr. SABLON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Small Business

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## A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to ensure that the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is eligible for certain Small Business Administration programs, 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 “Northern Mariana Is-

5 lands Small Business Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE**  
2 **NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS FOR CERTAIN**  
3 **SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION PRO-**  
4 **GRAMS.**

5 The Small Business Act is amended—

6 (1) in section 7(m)(7)(B) (15 U.S.C.  
7 636(m)(7)(B))—

8 (A) by striking “and American Samoa”  
9 each place such term appears and inserting  
10 “American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of  
11 the Northern Mariana Islands”; and

12 (B) in clause (i)(I)(bb), by striking “<sup>1</sup>/<sub>55</sub>”  
13 and inserting “<sup>1</sup>/<sub>56</sub>”;

14 (2) in section 21(a) (15 U.S.C. 648(a))—

15 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting before  
16 “The Administration shall require” the fol-  
17 lowing new sentence: “The previous sentence  
18 shall not apply to an applicant that has its  
19 principal office located in the Commonwealth of  
20 the Northern Mariana Islands.”; and

21 (B) in paragraph (4)(C)(ix), by striking  
22 “and American Samoa” and inserting “Amer-  
23 ican Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the  
24 Northern Mariana Islands”; and

25 (3) in section 34(a)(9) (15 U.S.C. 657d(a)(9)),  
26 by striking “and American Samoa” and inserting

- 1 “American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the
- 2 Northern Mariana Islands”.

