

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3097

To establish the SelectUSA program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 23, 2016

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. HELLER, Mr. NELSON, and Mr. COONS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To establish the SelectUSA program, 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 “SelectUSA Authoriza-
5 tion Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECTUSA.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the De-
8 partment of Commerce the SelectUSA program (in this
9 Act referred to as “SelectUSA”), a Government-wide pro-
10 gram to attract and retain investment in the United
11 States economy.

1 (b) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Secretary of Com-
2 merce shall designate a senior staff member of the Depart-
3 ment of Commerce to be the Executive Director of
4 SelectUSA, who shall coordinate activities relating to busi-
5 ness investment decisions within the Department of Com-
6 merce and with other Federal agencies with responsibility
7 for such activities.

8 (c) MISSION.—SelectUSA shall—

9 (1) facilitate business investment in the United
10 States in order to create jobs, spur economic growth,
11 and promote United States competitiveness;

12 (2) provide enhanced coordination of Federal
13 activities in order to increase the impact of Federal
14 resources that support domestic and foreign invest-
15 ment in the United States;

16 (3) in providing assistance, work to maximize
17 impact on business investment, job creation, and
18 economic growth; and

19 (4) work on behalf of the entire United States
20 and exercise strict neutrality, except as specified in
21 subsection (e), with regard to specific locations with-
22 in the United States.

23 (d) FUNCTIONS.—SelectUSA shall—

1 (1) coordinate outreach and engagement by the
2 Federal Government to promote the United States
3 as the premier location to operate a business;

4 (2) endeavor to coordinate and avoid duplica-
5 tion with other Federal agencies;

6 (3) serve as an ombudsman that facilitates the
7 resolution of issues involving Federal programs or
8 activities related to pending investments;

9 (4) provide information to domestic and foreign
10 firms on—

11 (A) the investment climate in the United
12 States;

13 (B) Federal programs and incentives avail-
14 able to investors; and

15 (C) State and local economic development
16 organizations; and

17 (5) report periodically to the President, through
18 the National Economic Council, the Domestic Policy
19 Council, and the National Security Staff, on out-
20 reach activities of SelectUSA, requests for informa-
21 tion received by SelectUSA, and efforts of
22 SelectUSA to resolve issues.

23 (e) INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR RURAL AREAS
24 AND SMALLER STATES.—SelectUSA shall endeavor—

1 (1) to increase foreign direct investment oppor-
2 tunities for rural areas and smaller States; and

3 (2) to make its services increasingly available to
4 rural areas and smaller States, including through—

5 (A) teleconferencing;

6 (B) geographic positioning of conferences
7 and events of SelectUSA, when practicable; and

8 (C) increased attention by staff of
9 SelectUSA.

10 (f) PARTICIPATION OF OTHER AGENCIES.—All Fed-
11 eral agencies with responsibility for activities relating to
12 business investment decisions shall cooperate with
13 SelectUSA, as requested by the Executive Director, to
14 support the objectives of SelectUSA.

15 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL INTERAGENCY INVESTMENT WORKING**
16 **GROUP.**

17 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Fed-
18 eral Interagency Investment Working Group (in this sec-
19 tion referred to as the “Working Group”), which shall be
20 convened and chaired by the Executive Director of
21 SelectUSA, in coordination with the Director of the Na-
22 tional Economic Council.

23 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Working Group shall consist
24 of senior officials from—

1 (1) agencies represented on the Trade Pro-
2 motion Coordinating Committee established by sec-
3 tion 2312 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988
4 (15 U.S.C. 4727); and

5 (2) such other agencies as the Secretary of
6 Commerce may designate.

7 (c) FUNCTIONS.—The Working Group shall coordi-
8 nate activities to promote business investment and re-
9 spond to specific issues that affect business investment de-
10 cisions.

11 **SEC. 4. REPORTS AND NOTIFICATIONS TO CONGRESS.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 31 of
13 each year, the Secretary of Commerce shall submit to Con-
14 gress a report on the activities of SelectUSA during the
15 preceding fiscal year.

16 (b) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under sub-
17 section (a) shall include, for the period covered by the re-
18 port, the following:

19 (1) A description of the outreach activities of
20 SelectUSA.

21 (2) A statement of the funds used by
22 SelectUSA.

23 (3) An assessment of the number of foreign
24 firms that located in the United States using the
25 services provided by SelectUSA, including the eco-

1 nomic effect of such locations for the United States,
2 and an assessment of related services provided by
3 SelectUSA to State, local, regional, and tribal eco-
4 nomic development organizations and international
5 investors.

6 (4) A description of the progress made by the
7 United States in increasing its share of foreign di-
8 rect investment from the Asia and Pacific regions.

9 (5) A description of the efforts of SelectUSA in
10 promoting foreign direct investment in rural areas or
11 smaller States.

12 (6) A description of the efforts of SelectUSA in
13 coordinating with other Federal agencies, including
14 the United States and Foreign Commercial Service
15 established under section 2301 of the Export En-
16 hancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4721), the De-
17 partment of State, and the Foreign Agricultural
18 Service of the Department of Agriculture.

19 (7) Any findings that are made by SelectUSA
20 in conducting its activities and are relevant to pro-
21 moting the United States as a destination for for-
22 eign direct investment.

1 **SEC. 5. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE ASSESS-**
2 **MENT OF EFFECTIVENESS OF SELECTUSA.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than one year after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
5 of the United States shall submit to Congress a report
6 assessing the effectiveness of SelectUSA in increasing, en-
7 couraging, and supporting foreign direct investment in the
8 United States.

9 (b) **RECOMMENDATIONS.**—The report required by
10 subsection (a) shall include recommendations for ways
11 SelectUSA may—

12 (1) increase foreign direct investment in the
13 United States;

14 (2) better coordinate with other Federal agen-
15 cies and other entities;

16 (3) better serve rural areas and smaller States,
17 including by tailoring activities to those areas and
18 States;

19 (4) increase foreign direct investment in those
20 areas and States; and

21 (5) more effectively use its resources.

1 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR**
2 **SELECTUSA.**

3 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
4 SelectUSA such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year
5 2017 and each fiscal year thereafter.

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