



## ***Rural Innovation for a Stronger Economy (RISE) Reauthorization Act of 2026***

**Led in the Senate by:** Senators Peter Welch (D-Vt.); Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.)

**Introduced in the House by:** Reps. Shomari Figures (D-AL-02); John Mannion (D-NY-22)

### **Background:**

Created in 2018, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) RISE program provides federal grant funding to rural job accelerator partnerships that support in-demand job training, business formation and expansion efforts, and overall economic growth.

The program also helps rural communities leverage local assets to create high-wage jobs in high-growth fields. However, heavy oversubscription to RISE, combined with the program's limited administrative flexibility to target specific industry bases, often prevents diverse rural communities from utilizing the benefits of the program.

### **Legislation:**

The *RISE Reauthorization Act of 2026* would reauthorize and improve USDA's RISE program to help more rural regions achieve their economic and business goals.

Specifically, the bicameral legislation would provide the RISE Program with a minimum of \$50 million in discretionary funding, in addition to increasing the diversity of industry bases the program awards and easing requirements for proposed job accelerator partnerships. These changes would allow the program to address a broader set of economic challenges in rural communities.

### **Supporting Organizations:**

The *RISE Reauthorization Act* is endorsed by the Center on Rural Innovation.