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**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5819**  
**OFFERED BY MR. SESTAK OF PENNSYLVANIA**

At the end of title I of the bill, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 1 \_\_\_\_ . PROVIDING EXPLANATIONS TO UNSUCCESS-**  
2 **FUL APPLICANTS.**

3 Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638)  
4 is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “(dd) PROVIDING EXPLANATIONS TO UNSUCCESS-  
6 FUL APPLICANTS.—Whenever an entity applies for, but  
7 does not receive, an award under an SBIR or STTR pro-  
8 gram under this section, the Federal agency conducting  
9 the program shall—

10 “(1) in a plain and conspicuous manner, notify  
11 that entity that it can request an explanation (which  
12 must be of a constructive nature) of the reasons why  
13 the entity did not receive the award; and

14 “(2) provide such an explanation to that entity,  
15 if the entity so requests.”.

