

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Joe Courtney today announced that the U.S. Treasury Department is allocating \$13,301,126 to the state of Connecticut for small businesses lending. The infusion is a key component of the recently-passed Small Business Jobs Act, and will help businesses expand and create jobs. States can now apply for their allocation, which is part of a \$1.5 billion nationwide effort.

“For small business owners across eastern Connecticut, this is an important step in our economic recovery,” said Congressman Courtney. “Increased access to capital is a huge help to small businesses, which are traditionally the job-growth engine of our economy. Small businesses were eager for this legislation because of the opportunities it will create, and I am pleased to see it working so quickly.”

Through this part of the Small Business Jobs Act, states have the opportunity to apply for federal funds for programs that partner with private lenders to extend greater credit to small businesses. States are required to demonstrate a minimum of \$10 in new private lending for every \$1 in federal funding. Accordingly, the \$1.5 billion investment from the federal government is expected to support \$15 billion in additional private lending.

In addition to the State Small Business Credit Initiative, the Small Business Jobs Act will help America’s 27 million small businesses with eight tax cuts totaling \$12 billion that went into effect last week. It will help small businesses compete with big corporations by spurring up to \$300 billion in private sector lending and extending and expanding existing Small Business Administration low-cost loans. The bill is fully paid for and will not add to the deficit.