



United States House Committee on

Ways & Means

CHAIRMAN JASON SMITH

H.R. 6500, AGOA Extension Act

Rep. Jason Smith (R-MO), Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE)

Background:

- The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) is the cornerstone of economic relations between the U.S. and sub-Saharan African nations.
 - Since 2000, the program **has fostered increased trade and investment** within Africa while raising standards by **promoting fair treatment for U.S. companies and farmers, human rights, anti-corruption efforts, and democracy.**
 - AGOA **lapsed on September 30, 2025**, following a 10-year renewal.
- AGOA has the **most stringent eligibility criteria** of any preference program; countries must undergo **annual reviews** to ensure they meet strict standards related to **rule of law and political pluralism, anti-corruption, intellectual property rights, human rights and market access.** Further, the program ensures beneficiaries do not undermine U.S. national security or foreign policy interests.
- Africa is home to approximately 30% of the world's critical mineral resources, and China has invested \$8 to \$10 billion in Africa to try to monopolize these essential supply chains. **AGOA is one of our most valuable tools for securing our long-term economic and national security.**
- An **extended lapse in AGOA would be costly to U.S. leadership** within the region, creating a void that malign actors like China and Russia will seek to fill.

H.R. 6500, AGOA Extension Act:

- **Renews AGOA for 3 years, until December 31, 2028.**
- Provides much needed **certainty to U.S. companies that source products from sub-Saharan Africa.**
 - A 3-year renewal **allows ample time for companies to make sourcing decisions, fostering supply chains within Africa, and allowing time for Congress to work with the Trump Administration on reforms as part of a long-term AGOA renewal.**
- Renewal of AGOA does not impact the Trump Administration's tariff program—only the statutory tariff schedule that is set by Congress.
- The Trump Administration has been focused on fostering stability in Africa, evidenced by President Trump's work to secure peace between Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The backdrop of strong economic ties, underpinned by AGOA, further **demonstrates a commitment to peace and stability in the region.**