

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2366

To reauthorize the veterans entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 17, 2007

Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SHULER, and Mr. CHABOT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To reauthorize the veterans entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “SBA Veterans’ Programs Act of 2007”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—OFFICE OF VETERANS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Sec. 101. Office of Veterans Business Development.

TITLE II—VETERANS ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES

Sec. 201. Veterans Assistance and Services program.

TITLE III—EXPANDING VETERANS BUSINESS OUTREACH
CENTERS

Sec. 301. Increasing the number of outreach centers.

Sec. 302. Independent study on gaps in availability of outreach centers.

1 **TITLE I—OFFICE OF VETERANS**
2 **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

3 **SEC. 101. OFFICE OF VETERANS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT.**

4 Section 32 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
5 657b) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
7 section (e); and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(c) PARTICIPATION IN TAP WORKSHOPS.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Associate Adminis-
12 trator shall increase veteran outreach by ensuring
13 that Veteran Business Outreach Centers regularly
14 participate, on a nationwide basis, in the workshops
15 of the Transition Assistance Program of the Depart-
16 ment of Labor.

17 “(2) PRESENTATIONS.—In carrying out para-
18 graph (1), a Center may provide grants to eligible
19 entities located in Transition Assistance Program lo-
20 cations to make presentations on the opportunities
21 available from the Administration for recently sepa-

1 rating veterans. Each such presentation must in-
2 clude, at a minimum, the entrepreneurial and busi-
3 ness training resources available from the Adminis-
4 tration.

5 “(3) REPORTS.—The Associate Administrator
6 shall submit to Congress progress reports on the im-
7 plementation of this subsection.

8 “(d) WOMEN VETERANS BUSINESS TRAINING RE-
9 SOURCE PROGRAM.—The Associate Administrator shall
10 establish a Women Veterans Business Training Resource
11 Program. The program shall—

12 “(1) compile information on resources available
13 to women veterans for business training, including
14 resources for—

15 “(A) vocational and technical education;

16 “(B) general business skills, such as mar-
17 keting and accounting; and

18 “(C) business assistance programs targeted
19 to women veterans; and

20 “(2) disseminate the information through Vet-
21 eran Business Outreach Centers and women’s busi-
22 ness centers.”.

1 **TITLE II—VETERANS**
2 **ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES**

3 **SEC. 201. VETERANS ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES PRO-**
4 **GRAM.**

5 Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648)
6 is amended by adding at the end the following:

7 “(n) VETERANS ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES PRO-
8 GRAM.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A Small Business Develop-
10 ment Center may apply for an additional grant to
11 carry out a veterans assistance and services pro-
12 gram.

13 “(2) ELEMENTS OF PROGRAM.—Under a pro-
14 gram under paragraph (1), the Center shall—

15 “(A) create a marketing campaign to pro-
16 mote awareness and education of the services of
17 the Center that are available to veterans, and to
18 target the campaign toward veterans, disabled
19 veterans, military units, Federal agencies, and
20 veterans organizations;

21 “(B) use technology-assisted online coun-
22 seling and distance learning technology to over-
23 come the impediments to entrepreneurship
24 faced by veterans and members of the Armed
25 Forces; and

1 “(C) increase coordination among organi-
2 zations that assist veterans, including by estab-
3 lishing virtual integration of service providers
4 and offerings for a one-stop point of contact for
5 veterans who are entrepreneurs or small busi-
6 ness owners.

7 “(3) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—Each grant under
8 this subsection shall be for at least \$75,000.

9 “(4) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—A grant under this
10 subsection may not exceed \$250,000.

11 “(5) FUNDING.—Subject to amounts approved
12 in advance in appropriations Acts, the Administra-
13 tion may make grants or enter into cooperative
14 agreements to carry out the provisions of this sub-
15 section.”.

16 **TITLE III—EXPANDING VET-**
17 **ERANS BUSINESS OUTREACH**
18 **CENTERS**

19 **SEC. 301. INCREASING THE NUMBER OF OUTREACH CEN-**
20 **TERS.**

21 The Administrator of the Small Business Administra-
22 tion shall use the authority in section 8(b)(17) of the
23 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 647(b)) to ensure that the
24 number of Veterans Business Outreach Centers through-
25 out the United States increases—

1 (1) by at least 2, for each of fiscal years 2008
2 and 2009; and

3 (2) by the number that the Administrator con-
4 siders appropriate, based on existing need, for each
5 fiscal year thereafter.

6 **SEC. 302. INDEPENDENT STUDY ON GAPS IN AVAILABILITY**
7 **OF OUTREACH CENTERS.**

8 The Administrator of the Small Business Administra-
9 tion shall sponsor an independent study on gaps in the
10 availability of Veterans Business Outreach Centers across
11 the United States. The purpose of the study shall be to
12 identify the gaps that do exist so as to inform decisions
13 on funding and on the allocation and coordination of re-
14 sources. Not later than 6 months after the date of the
15 enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to
16 Congress a report on the results of the study.

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