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SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND TRADE MARKUP ON ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS LEGISLATION

HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

HEARING HELD
APRIL 30, 2009

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CONTENTS

OPENING STATEMENTS

	Page
Shuler, Hon. Heath	1
Luetkemeyer, Hon. Blaine	2
Statements for the Record:	
H.R. 1803, 'Veterans Business Center Act of 2009'	9
H.R. 1807, 'Educating Entrepreneurs through Today's Technology Act'	19
H.R. 1834, 'The Native American Business Development Enhancement Act of 2009'	23
H.R. 1838, 'Women's Business Center Act'	34
H.R. 1839, 'SCORE Act'	43
H.R. 1842, 'Expanding Entrepreneurship Act of 2009'	47
H.R. 1845, 'The Small Business Development Center Modernization Act of 2009'	52

SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELPMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND TRADE MARKUP ON ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS LEGISLATION

Thursday, April 30, 2009

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS,
Washington, DC.

The Subcommittee met, pursuant to call, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 2360 Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Heath Shuler [chairman of the Subcommittee] presiding.

Present: Representatives Shuler, Bright, Dahlkemper, Kirkpatrick, Luetkemeyer and Thompson.

Chairman SHULER. I am pleased this morning to call this hearing to order.

We often talk about the role that small business plays in the creation of jobs and with good reason. Small firms generate between 60 and 80 percent of new positions. Following the recession in the mid-1990s, they created 3.8 million jobs. With unemployment expected to reach 9.8 percent in 2010, we could use that growth today.

But unfortunately, many firms are struggling to make ends meet. Let's allow them to hire new workers. In the face of historic economic challenges, we should be investing in America's job creators. SBA's Entrepreneurial Development Programs, or ED, do just that. Of all the tools in the small business toolbox, these are some of the most critical. They help small firms do everything from draft business plans to access capital.

Today we will reauthorize and enhance ED programs. The seven bills before us will not only modernize the program, but will make it work for our entrepreneurs.

At this time I will yield to the Ranking Member for his opening statement.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Good morning, and thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to mark up critical legislation aimed at making the Entrepreneurial Development Programs more effective and responsive to the needs of small businesses.

At a time when small businesses are struggling to stay afloat, we must work to improve the usefulness of these initiatives. Rather than relying heavily on the government to spend our way out of this recession, we need to focus on insuring our small business, truly engines of job creation, are able to utilize all of the resources already available.

As a small businessman myself, I am pleased to introduce a bill that will assist my many fellow small business owners and employees throughout my district in Missouri and all throughout the country.

Two out of every three jobs created in the U.S. are created by small businesses, and like every recession before, small businesses will lead the way this time in economic growth, determination and innovation.

H.R. 1842, the Expanding Entrepreneurship Act of 2009, makes several changes to the SBA's Entrepreneurial Development Programs. My bill aims to expand entrepreneurial job growth by pulling resources from duplicative government programs into a streamlined program to help emphasize job creation and retention. Specifically, this bill requires the SBA to develop a job creation strategy for 2009-2010, including the agency's intent for using existing programs to create and retain jobs throughout the United States.

The SBA Administrator will also be required to collect measures related to the program performance and job creation, insuring that existing programs are being used effectively and duplicative government programs are done away with, and to insure easy access for entrepreneurs a database of providers of entrepreneurial development services will be established.

As our country continues to address the economic problems hurting our families and businesses, we should be growing our small businesses instead of hindering them with unwanted tax increases.

I know that the House Small Business Committee and this Subcommittee recognize how critical small business is to the economic health of this country. That is why I want to thank my colleagues for their commitment to sponsoring various pieces of legislation to improve programs that assist entrepreneurs with practical and technical skills needed to start and sustain a business.

As Louis Celli, CEO of the Northeast Veterans Business Resource Center in Boston, put it at a recent Subcommittee hearing on this same subject, this Committee has exactly the right focus by wanting to interweave these programs together and really force everybody to play in the same sandbox, and by making entrepreneurial development programs more effective, we can be not only more responsive to small businesses, but we can also be better stewards of taxpayers' dollars.

I am please to see my bill and my colleagues' similar piece of legislation working their way through the legislative process, and I look forward to seeing this bill become law.

With that, I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman SHULER. Thank you, sir.

Are there any other members who wish to be recognized for the purposes of opening remarks?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The first order of business we will consider, H.R. 1803.

[The Bill H.R. 1803 is included in the appendix.]

Chairman SHULER. That is the Veterans Business Center Act of 2009, introduced by Representative Nye.

As of today, more than 130,000 troops have returned from Iraq and Afghanistan. Many of these men and women are now pursuing entrepreneurship. In fact, veterans already comprise 14 percent of all self-employed Americans. Mr. Nye's legislation gives these men and women a chance to become business owners. It does this by establishing a new Veterans Business Center Program. This step will provide veterans with dedicated counseling and business training.

Our soldiers have served our country well and deserve a fair shot at the American dream. For that reason this bill has the backing of both the American Legion and the VFW. I strongly support this legislation.

Are there any members who wish to be recognized?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The Committee will now move to consider H.R. 1803. The Clerk will report the title of the bill.

The CLERK. To amend the Small Business Act to establish a Veterans Business Center Program and for other purposes.

Chairman SHULER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill in its entirety be open for amendments at this point. Does any member seek recognition for the purpose of offering an amendment?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. Seeing no amendments, the question is on reporting H.R. 1803 to the full Committee. All in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman SHULER. Those opposed, no.

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The ayes have it. The bill is adopted and reported to the full Committee.

In terms of ED Programs, it is not enough to have the proper tools in place. We should be certain that small firms can access those tools. Representative Thompson's bill, H.R. 1807, will make that happen.

The Educating Entrepreneurs Through Today's Technology Act provides business owners with critical distance learning tools. These resources are particularly useful for businesses in rural areas which may not have the same range of services that other regions do.

Through H.R. 1807 entrepreneurs in every corner of the country, from Appalachia to East L.A., can access the training and resources they need. I urge strong support of this legislation.

I will recognize Mr. Thompson for his remarks.

Mr. THOMPSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Ranking Member.

Thank you for holding this mark-up today to focus on the Entrepreneurial Development Programs that will strengthen SBA's capacity to continue to spur economic growth in hard to reach areas and underserved areas.

For many entrepreneurs in my district in order to access resources provided by SPA and small business development centers, they have to drive long distances often through some pretty tough winters in Pennsylvania. In my rural district, we have learned to use our limited resources wisely, and during the hearing for the bills we have marked up today, I had the privilege of having a witness from my district, Ms. Donna Kilhoffer, the Program Manager

for the Community Education Council of Elk and Cameron Counties in Pennsylvania, which provides affordable academic and professional development by partnering with institutions of higher learning, along with countless additional partnerships with regional businesses and industry.

My bill, H.R. 1807, will assist distance learning programs like those serviced by the Community Education Council in order to enhance the potential of existing and soon to be entrepreneurs. H.R. 1807 will allow third parties the opportunity to provide high quality distance training for a modest competitive grants process administered by the SBA.

I appreciate the work the Committee has done on this bill, and I would like to thank the bill's co-sponsors, Mr. Luetkemeyer, Mr. Connolly, and Mr. Pitts, and Mr. Chairman, I encourage my colleagues in the Subcommittee to support this smart government proposal.

And with that I yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman SHULER. Thank you, sir.

Do any other members wish to be recognized on H.R. 1807?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The Committee will now move to consider H.R. 1807.

[The Bill H.R. 1807 is included in the appendix.]

Chairman SHULER. The Clerk will report the title of the bill.

The CLERK. To promote distance learning to potential and existing entrepreneurs and for other purposes.

Chairman SHULER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill in its entirety be open for amendments at this time.

Does any member seek to be recognized for the purpose of offering an amendment?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. Seeing no amendments, the question is on reporting H.R. 1807 to the full Committee. All those in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman SHULER. Those opposed, no.

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The ayes have it. The bill is adopted and reported to the full Committee.

Entrepreneurship is a proven means of fighting poverty. It can also revitalize struggling communities across this country. Nowhere is it more important than within the native American populations.

With that in mind, Representative Kirkpatrick has introduced H.R. 1834, the Native American Business Development Enhancement Act of 2009. Native American businesses are growing at an impressive rate of 84 percent. Clearly, we would like this trend to continue. For that to happen entrepreneurs must have access to critical counseling and technical assistant resources.

H.R. 1834 contains provisions for both. I urge its support.

I will now yield to the bill's sponsor, Representative Kirkpatrick, for her remarks.

Ms. KIRKPATRICK. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for this opportunity to consider my bill, the Native American Business Development Enhancement Act.

Our tribal communities make do with less even when times are good, and in these tough economic times, we can do more to help them build their communities and develop their local economies. This bill will accomplish that by expanding the assistance available to Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian small business entrepreneurs under the Small Business Act by providing essential training and assistance and making it easier to get the capital they need to start up or grow their businesses.

The measure will be a boon to our native populations, helping to grow their economies and creating new jobs.

And I yield back.

Chairman SHULER. Thank you, Ms. Kirkpatrick.

Are there any other members who wish to be recognized on H.R. 1834?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The Committee will now move to consider H.R. 1834.

[The Bill H.R. 1834 is included in the appendix.]

Chairman SHULER. The Clerk will report the title of the bill.

The CLERK. To amend the Small Business Act to expand and improve the assistance provided to Indian tribe members, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, and for other purposes.

Chairman SHULER. I ask unanimous consent that this bill in its entirety be open for amendments at this time.

Does any member seek recognition for the purpose of offering an amendment?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. Seeing no amendments, the question is reporting H.R. 1834 to the full Committee. All in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman SHULER. Those opposed, no.

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The ayes have it. The bill is adopted and reported to the full Committee.

The next piece of legislation that we will consider is H.R. 1838, the Women's Business Center Act, introduced by Representative Fallin. Women's business centers go a long way to fostering entrepreneurship. H.R. 1834 will provide these organizations with needed stability.

Through technical assistance and counseling, the bill will also renew the program's original mission, balancing low income communities. We often talk about moving women from welfare to work. Women business centers can move them from welfare to entrepreneurship.

This legislation will build a program with a strong track record of encouraging entrepreneurship, and I urge its support.

Is there any member that wishes to be recognized on H.R. 1838?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The Committee will now move to consider H.R. 1838.

[The bill H.R. 1838 is included in the appendix.]

Chairman SHULER. The Clerk will report the title of the bill.

The CLERK. To amend the Small Business Act to modify certain provisions relating to women's business centers and for other purposes.

Chairman SHULER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill in its entirety be open for amendments at this time. Does any member seek recognition for the purpose of offering an amendment?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. Seeing no amendments, the question is on reporting H.R. 1838 to the full Committee. All those in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman SHULER. Those opposed, no.

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The ayes have it. The bill is adopted and reported to the full Committee.

Mentoring programs are vital resources not just for new entrepreneurs, but for experienced business owners looking to grow. The next piece of legislation recognizes that fact. H.R. 1839, or the SCORE Act, modernizes networking and mentoring within the SCORE Program.

The bill introduced by Representative Buchanan establishes benchmarks for measuring program efficiency. It does this by qualifying the success of entrepreneurs who participate in its initiative.

It also establishes standards for mentoring. This bill will insure the highest quality of service for our small businesses and I strongly urge its support.

Are there any members who wish to be recognized on H.R. 1839?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The Committee will now move to consider H.R. 1839.

[The Bill H.R. 1839 is included in the appendix.]

Chairman SHULER. The Clerk will report the title of the bill.

The CLERK. To amend the Small Business Act to improve SCORE and for other purposes.

Chairman SHULER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill in its entirety be open for amendments at this time. Does any member seek recognition for the purpose of offering an amendment?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. Seeing no amendments, the question is on reporting H.R. 1839 to the full Committee. All those in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman SHULER. Those opposed, no.

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The ayes have it. The bill is adopted and reported to the full Committee.

The next bill we will consider is H.R. 1842, the Expanding Entrepreneurship Act of 2009, introduced by the Ranking Member Mr. Luetkemeyer. This legislation streamlines SBA's ED profiling by increasing coordination and planning. Even more importantly, it focuses on job creation.

The economy may be struggling, but these programs can help new businesses get off the ground, allowing them to create jobs and spur growth.

I urge strong support of this bill, and I commend the Ranking Member for his efforts of drafting this legislation.

Are there any members who wish to be recognized on H.R. 1842?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The Committee now moves to consider the bill H.R. 1842.

[The Bill H.R. 1842 is included in the appendix.]

Chairman SHULER. The Clerk will report the title of the bill.

The CLERK. To amend the Small Business Act to improve the Small Business Administration's Entrepreneurial Development Programs and for other purposes.

Chairman SHULER. I ask unanimous consent that this bill in its entirety be open for amendments at this time. Does any member seek recognition for the purpose of offering an amendment?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. Seeing no amendments, the question is on reporting H.R. 1842 to the full Committee. All those in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman SHULER. Those oppose, no.

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The ayes have it. The bill is adopted and reported to the full Committee.

As our last piece of business, we will consider H.R. 1845. This bill, the Small Business Development Center Modernization Act of 2009, has been introduced by Representative Schock. Entrepreneurial assistance is critical for small business tools. In fact, businesses that receive this kind of help are twice as likely to succeed.

Though Mr. Schock's bill will reform the current SBDC Program, in doing so it will not only provide existing initiatives, but it will help firms address new challenges.

While focused on these types of concerns, the legislation provides much needed tools for entrepreneurs. It helps them remain competitive in today's market. It also helps them adapt to the challenges of the economic climate today.

I urge the members' support of this legislation. Is there any member who wishes to be recognized on H.R. 1845?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The Committee will now move to consider H.R. 1845.[The Bill H.R. 1845 is included in the appendix.]

Chairman SHULER. The Clerk will report the title of the bill.

The CLERK. To amend the Small Business Act to modernize Small Business Development Centers and for other purposes.

Chairman SHULER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill in its entirety be open for amendments at this time. Does any member wish to seek recognition for the purpose of offering an amendment?

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. Seeing no amendments, the question is on reporting H.R. 1849 to the full Committee. All those in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman SHULER. Those opposed, no.

[No response.]

Chairman SHULER. The ayes have it. The bill is adopted and reported to the full Committee.

This concludes the Subcommittee's business for today. I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee is authorized to correct section numbers, punctuation, cross-references, and make necessary technical and conforming corrections on the bills considered today.

Without objection, so ordered.

This mark-up is adjourned.

[Whereupon, 10:28 a.m., the Subcommittee meeting was concluded.]

I

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1803

To amend the Small Business Act to establish a Veterans Business Center program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 2009

Mr. NYE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

---

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to establish a Veterans Business Center program, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Veterans Business Center Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. VETERANS BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.

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

1 (1) in subsection (f), by inserting "(other than
2 subsections (g), (h), and (i))" after "this section";
3 and
4 (2) by adding at the end the following:
5 "(g) VETERANS BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM.—
6 "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall es-
7 tablish a Veterans Business Center program within
8 the Administration to provide entrepreneurial train-
9 ing and counseling to veterans in accordance with
10 this subsection.
11 "(2) DIRECTOR.—The Administrator shall ap-
12 point a Director of the Veterans Business Center
13 program, who shall implement and oversee such pro-
14 gram and who shall report directly to the Associate
15 Administrator for Veterans Business Development.
16 "(3) DESIGNATION OF VETERANS BUSINESS
17 CENTERS.—The Director shall establish by regula-
18 tion an application, review, and notification process
19 to designate entities as veterans business centers for
20 purposes of this section. The Director shall make
21 publicly known the designation of an entity as a vet-
22 erans business center and the award of a grant to
23 such center under this subsection.
24 "(4) FUNDING FOR VETERANS BUSINESS CEN-
25 TERS.—

1 "(A) INITIAL GRANTS.—The Director is
2 authorized to make a grant (hereinafter in this
3 subsection referred to as an 'initial grant') to
4 each veterans business center each year for not
5 more than 5 years in the amount of $150,000.
6 "(B) GROWTH FUNDING GRANTS.—After a
7 veterans business center has received 5 years of
8 initial grants under subparagraph (A), the Di-
9 rector is authorized to make a grant (herein-
10 after in this subsection referred to as a 'growth
11 funding grant') to such center each year for not
12 more than 3 years in the amount of $100,000.
13 After such center has received 3 years of
14 growth funding grants, the Director shall re-
15 quire such center to meet performance bench-
16 marks established by the Director to be eligible
17 for growth funding grants in subsequent years.
18 "(5) CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES.—Each vet-
19 erans business center receiving a grant under this
20 subsection shall use the funds primarily on veteran
21 entrepreneurial development, counseling of veteran-
22 owned small businesses through one-on-one instruc-
23 tion and classes, and providing government procure-
24 ment assistance to veterans.

1 "(6) MATCHING FUNDS.—Each veterans busi-
2 ness center receiving a grant under this subsection
3 shall be required to provide a non-Federal match of
4 50 percent of the Federal funds such center receives
5 under this subsection. The Director may issue to a
6 veterans business center, upon request, a waiver
7 from all or a portion of such matching requirement
8 upon a determination of hardship.
9 "(7) TARGETED AREAS.—The Director shall
10 give priority to applications for designations and
11 grants under this subsection that will establish a
12 veterans business center in a geographic area, as de-
13 termined by the Director, that is not currently
14 served by a veterans business center and in which—
15 "(A) the population of veterans exceeds the
16 national median of such measure; or
17 "(B) the population of veterans of Oper-
18 ation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring
19 Freedom exceeds the national median of such
20 measure.
21 "(8) TRAINING PROGRAM.—The Director shall
22 develop and implement, directly or by contract, an
23 annual training program for the staff and personnel
24 of designated veterans business centers to provide
25 education, support, and information on best prac-

1 tices with respect to the establishment and operation
2 of such centers. The Director shall develop such
3 training program in consultation with veterans busi-
4 ness centers, the interagency task force established
5 under subsection (c), and veterans service organiza-
6 tions.

7 "(9) INCLUSION OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN
8 PROGRAM.—Upon the date of the enactment of this
9 subsection, each Veterans Business Outreach Center
10 established by the Administrator under the authority
11 of section 8(b)(17) and each center that received
12 funds during fiscal year 2006 from the National
13 Veterans Business Development Corporation estab-
14 lished under section 33 and that remains in oper-
15 ation shall be treated as designated as a veterans
16 business center for purposes of this subsection and
17 shall be eligible for grants under this subsection.

18 "(10) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
19 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
20 this subsection $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and
21 $12,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

22 "(h) ADDITIONAL GRANTS AVAILABLE TO VETERANS
23 BUSINESS CENTERS.—

24 "(1) ACCESS TO CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM.—

1 "(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the
2 Veterans Business Center program shall estab-
3 lish a grant program under which the Director
4 is authorized to make, to veterans business cen-
5 ters designated under subsection (g), grants for
6 the following:
7 "(i) Developing specialized programs
8 to assist veteran-owned small businesses to
9 secure capital and repair damaged credit.
10 "(ii) Providing informational seminars
11 on securing loans to veteran-owned small
12 businesses.
13 "(iii) Providing one-on-one counseling
14 to veteran-owned small businesses to im-
15 prove the financial presentations of such
16 businesses to lenders.
17 "(iv) Facilitating the access of vet-
18 eran-owned small businesses to both tradi-
19 tional and non-traditional financing
20 sources.
21 "(B) AWARD SIZE.—The Director may not
22 award a veterans business center more than
23 $75,000 in grants under this paragraph.
24 "(C) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
25 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated

1 to carry out this paragraph $1,500,000 for each
2 of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.
3 "(2) PROCUREMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT PRO-
4 GRAM.—
5 "(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall es-
6 tablish a grant program under which the Direc-
7 tor is authorized to make, to veterans business
8 centers designated under subsection (g), grants
9 for the following:
10 "(i) Assisting veteran-owned small
11 businesses to identify contracts that are
12 suitable to such businesses.
13 "(ii) Preparing veteran-owned small
14 businesses to be ready as subcontractors
15 and prime contractors for contracts made
16 available through the American Recovery
17 and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public
18 Law 111–5) through training and business
19 advisement, particularly with respect to the
20 construction trades.
21 "(iii) Providing veteran-owned small
22 businesses technical assistance with respect
23 to the Federal procurement process, in-
24 cluding assisting such businesses to comply

with Federal regulations and bonding requirements.

"(B) AWARD SIZE.—The Director may not award a veterans business center more than $75,000 in grants under this paragraph.

"(C) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this paragraph $1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

"(3) SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall establish a grant program under which the Director is authorized to make, to veterans business centers designated under subsection (g), grants for the following:

"(i) Developing outreach programs for service-disabled veterans with respect to the benefits of self-employment.

"(ii) Providing tailored training to service-disabled veterans with respect to business plan development, marketing, budgeting, accounting, and merchandising.

"(iii) Assisting service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses to locate and secure business opportunities.

"(B) AWARD SIZE.—The Director may not award a veterans business center more than $75,000 in grants under this paragraph.

"(C) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this paragraph $1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

"(i) VETERANS ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Veterans Business Center program is authorized to carry out an event, once every two years, for the purpose of providing networking opportunities, outreach, education, training, and support to veterans business centers funded under this section, veteran-owned small businesses, veterans service organizations, and other entities as determined appropriate for inclusion by the Director.

"(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection $450,000 for fiscal years 2010 and 2011.".

1 **SEC. 3. REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR INTERAGENCY**
2 **TASK FORCE.**

3 Section 32(c) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
4 657b(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:
5 "(4) REPORT.—The Administrator shall submit
6 to Congress biannually a report on the appointments
7 made to and activities of the task force.".

○

I

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1807

To provide distance learning to potential and existing entrepreneurs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

---

A BILL

To provide distance learning to potential and existing entrepreneurs, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Educating Entrepreneurs through Today's Technology Act".

SEC. 2. EDUCATING ENTREPRENEURS THROUGH TECHNOLOGY.

The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended by redesignating section 44 as section 45 and by inserting the following new section after section 43:

1 **"SEC. 44. EDUCATING ENTREPRENEURS THROUGH TECH-**
2 **NOLOGY.**

3 "(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to
4 provide high-quality multilingual distance learning to po-
5 tential and existing entrepreneurs through the use of tech-
6 nology.

7 "(b) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term
8 'qualified third-party vendor' means an entity with experi-
9 ence in distance learning content or communications tech-
10 nology, or both, with the ability to utilize on-line, satellite,
11 video-on-demand, and connected community-based organi-
12 zations to distribute and conduct distance learning related
13 to entrepreneurship, credit management, financial lit-
14 eracy, and Federal small business development programs.

15 "(c) AUTHORITY.—The Administrator shall contract
16 with qualified third-party vendors for entrepreneurial
17 training content and the development of communications
18 technology that can distribute content under this section
19 throughout the United States. The Administrator shall
20 contract with qualified third-party vendors to develop con-
21 tent in English and at least two other languages that are
22 not English. For the purposes of this section, the Adminis-
23 trator shall designate the languages other than English
24 by taking into account the general needs of the business
25 community.

1 "(d) CONTENT.—The Administrator shall ensure
2 that the content referred to in subsection (c) is timely and
3 relevant to entrepreneurial development and can be suc-
4 cessfully communicated remotely to an audience through
5 the use of technology. The Administrator shall, to the
6 maximum extent practicable, promote content that makes
7 use of technologies that allow for remote interaction by
8 the content provider with an audience. The Administrator
9 shall ensure that the content is catalogued and accessible
10 to small businesses on-line or through other remote tech-
11 nologies.

12 "(e) COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.—The Admin-
13 istrator shall ensure that the communications technology
14 referred to in subsection (c) is able to distribute content
15 throughout all 50 States and the territories of the United
16 States to small business concerns, home-based businesses,
17 Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business
18 Centers, Veterans Business Centers, and the Small Busi-
19 ness Administration. To the extent possible, the qualified
20 third-party vendor should deliver the content using
21 broadband technology.

22 "(f) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The Administrator
23 shall submit a report to Congress 6 months after the date
24 of the enactment of this section containing an analysis of
25 the Small Business Administration's progress in imple-

1 menting this section. The Administrator shall submit a re-
2 port to Congress one year after the date of the enactment
3 of this section and annually thereafter containing the
4 number of presentations made under this section, the
5 number of small businesses served under this section, the
6 extent to which this section resulted in the establishment
7 of new businesses, and feedback on the usefulness of this
8 medium in presenting entrepreneurial education through-
9 out the United States.

10 "(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
11 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
12 $2,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2010 and 2011.".

○

I

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1834

To amend the Small Business Act to expand and improve the assistance provided to Indian tribe members, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2009

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

---

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to expand and improve the assistance provided to Indian tribe members, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Native American Business Development Enhancement Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. OFFICE OF NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS; TRIBAL BUSINESS INFORMATION CENTERS PROGRAM.

(a) ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.—Section 4(b)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 633(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking "five Associate Administrators" and inserting "six Associate Administrators"; and

(2) by inserting after "vested in the Administration." the following: "One such Associate Administrator shall be the Associate Administrator for Native American Affairs, who shall administer the Office of Native American Affairs established under section 44.".

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 44 as section 45; and

(2) by inserting after section 43 the following:

"SEC. 44. OFFICE OF NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS AND TRIBAL BUSINESS INFORMATION CENTERS PROGRAM.

"(a) OFFICE OF NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS.—

"(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Administration an Office of Native American Af-

1 fairs (hereinafter referred to in this subsection as
2 the 'Office').
3 "(2) ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.—The Office
4 shall be administered by an Associate Administrator
5 appointed under section 4(b)(1).
6 "(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Office shall have
7 the following responsibilities:
8 "(A) Developing and implementing tools
9 and strategies to increase Native American en-
10 trepreneurship.
11 "(B) Expanding the access of Native
12 American entrepreneurs to business training,
13 capital, and Federal small business contracts.
14 "(C) Expanding outreach to Native Amer-
15 ican communities and aggressively marketing
16 entrepreneurial development services to such
17 communities.
18 "(D) Representing the Administration with
19 respect to Native American economic develop-
20 ment matters.
21 "(4) COORDINATION AND OVERSIGHT FUNC-
22 TION.—The Office shall provide oversight with re-
23 spect to and assist the implementation of all Admin-
24 istration initiatives relating to Native American en-
25 trepreneurial development.

1 "(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
2 To carry out this subsection, there is authorized to
3 be appropriated to the Administrator $2,000,000 for
4 each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.
5 "(b) TRIBAL BUSINESS INFORMATION CENTERS
6 PROGRAM.—
7 "(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator is
8 authorized to operate, alone or in coordination with
9 other Federal departments and agencies, a Tribal
10 Business Information Centers program that provides
11 Native American populations with business training
12 and entrepreneurial development assistance.
13 "(2) DESIGNATION OF CENTERS.—The Admin-
14 istrator shall designate entities as centers under the
15 Tribal Business Information Centers program.
16 "(3) ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT.—The Admin-
17 istrator may contribute agency personnel and re-
18 sources to the centers designated under paragraph
19 (2) to carry out this subsection.
20 "(4) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Administrator is
21 authorized to make grants of not more than
22 $300,000 to centers designated under paragraph (2)
23 for the purpose of providing Native Americans the
24 following:
25 "(A) Business workshops.

1 "(B) Individualized business counseling.

2 "(C) Entrepreneurial development train-
3 ing.

4 "(D) Access to computer technology and
5 other resources to start or expand a business.

6 "(5) REGULATIONS.—The Administrator shall
7 by regulation establish a process for designating cen-
8 ters under paragraph (2) and making the grants au-
9 thorized under paragraph (4).

10 "(6) DEFINITION OF ADMINISTRATOR.—In this
11 subsection, the term 'Administrator' means the Ad-
12 ministrator, acting through the Associate Adminis-
13 trator administering the Office of Native American
14 Affairs.

15 "(7) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
16 To carry out this subsection, there is authorized to
17 be appropriated to the Administrator $15,000,000
18 for fiscal year 2010 and $17,000,000 for fiscal year
19 2011.

20 "(c) DEFINITION OF NATIVE AMERICAN.—The term
21 'Native American' means an Indian tribe member, Alaska
22 Native, or Native Hawaiian as such are defined in section
23 21(a)(8) of this Act.".

1 **SEC. 3. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER ASSIST-**
2 **ANCE TO INDIAN TRIBE MEMBERS, ALASKA**
3 **NATIVES, AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 21(a) of the Small Busi-
5 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)) is amended by adding at the
6 end the following:

7 "(8) ADDITIONAL GRANT TO ASSIST INDIAN
8 TRIBE MEMBERS, ALASKA NATIVES, AND NATIVE HA-
9 WAIIANS.—

10 "(A) IN GENERAL.—Any applicant in an
11 eligible State that is funded by the Administra-
12 tion as a Small Business Development Center
13 may apply for an additional grant to be used
14 solely to provide services described in subsection
15 (c)(3) to assist with outreach, development, and
16 enhancement on Indian lands of small business
17 startups and expansions owned by Indian tribe
18 members, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawai-
19 ians.

20 "(B) ELIGIBLE STATES.—For purposes of
21 subparagraph (A), an eligible State is a State
22 that has a combined population of Indian tribe
23 members, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawai-
24 ians that comprises at least 1 percent of the
25 State's total population, as shown by the latest
26 available census.

1 "(C) GRANT APPLICATIONS.—An applicant
2 for a grant under subparagraph (A) shall sub-
3 mit to the Administration an application that is
4 in such form as the Administration may re-
5 quire. The application shall include information
6 regarding the applicant's goals and objectives
7 for the services to be provided using the grant,
8 including—
9 "(i) the capability of the applicant to
10 provide training and services to a rep-
11 resentative number of Indian tribe mem-
12 bers, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawai-
13 ians;
14 "(ii) the location of the Small Busi-
15 ness Development Center site proposed by
16 the applicant;
17 "(iii) the required amount of grant
18 funding needed by the applicant to imple-
19 ment the program; and
20 "(iv) the extent to which the applicant
21 has consulted with local tribal councils.
22 "(D) APPLICABILITY OF GRANT REQUIRE-
23 MENTS.—An applicant for a grant under sub-
24 paragraph (A) shall comply with all of the re-
25 quirements of this section, except that the

1 matching funds requirements under paragraph
2 (4)(A) shall not apply.
3 "(E) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—No
4 applicant may receive more than $300,000 in
5 grants under this paragraph for any fiscal year.
6 "(F) REGULATIONS.—After providing no-
7 tice and an opportunity for comment and after
8 consulting with the Association recognized by
9 the Administration pursuant to paragraph
10 (3)(A) (but not later than 180 days after the
11 date of enactment of this paragraph), the Ad-
12 ministration shall issue final regulations to
13 carry out this paragraph, including regulations
14 that establish—
15 "(i) standards relating to educational,
16 technical, and support services to be pro-
17 vided by Small Business Development Cen-
18 ters receiving assistance under this para-
19 graph; and
20 "(ii) standards relating to any work
21 plan that the Administration may require a
22 Small Business Development Center receiv-
23 ing assistance under this paragraph to de-
24 velop.

1 "(G) ADVICE OF LOCAL TRIBAL ORGANIZA-
2 TIONS.—A Small Business Development Center
3 receiving a grant under this paragraph shall re-
4 quest the advice of a tribal organization on how
5 best to provide assistance to Indian tribe mem-
6 bers, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians
7 and where to locate satellite centers to provide
8 such assistance.
9 "(H) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph,
10 the following definitions apply:
11 "(i) INDIAN LANDS.—The term 'In-
12 dian lands' has the meaning given the term
13 'Indian country' in section 1151 of title 18,
14 United States Code, the meaning given the
15 term 'Indian reservation' in section 151.2
16 of title 25, Code of Federal Regulations
17 (as in effect on the date of enactment of
18 this paragraph), and the meaning given
19 the term 'reservation' in section 4 of the
20 Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (25
21 U.S.C. 1903).
22 "(ii) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term 'In-
23 dian tribe' means any band, nation, or or-
24 ganized group or community of Indians lo-
25 cated in the contiguous United States, and

1 the Metlakatla Indian Community, whose
2 members are recognized as eligible for the
3 services provided to Indians by the Sec-
4 retary of the Interior because of their sta-
5 tus as Indians.
6 "(iii) INDIAN TRIBE MEMBER.—The
7 term 'Indian tribe member' means a mem-
8 ber of an Indian tribe (other than an Alas-
9 ka Native).
10 "(iv) ALASKA NATIVE.—The term
11 'Alaska Native' has the meaning given the
12 term 'Native' in section 3(b) of the Alaska
13 Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C.
14 1602(b)).
15 "(v) NATIVE HAWAIIAN.—The term
16 'Native Hawaiian' means any individual
17 who is—
18 "(I) a citizen of the United
19 States; and
20 "(II) a descendant of the aborigi-
21 nal people, who prior to 1778, occu-
22 pied and exercised sovereignty in the
23 area that now constitutes the State of
24 Hawaii.

1 "(vi) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The
2 term 'tribal organization' has the meaning
3 given that term in section 4(l) of the In-
4 dian Self-Determination and Education
5 Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(l)).
6 "(I) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
7 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
8 to carry out this paragraph $7,000,000 for each
9 of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.
10 "(J) FUNDING LIMITATIONS.—
11 "(i) NONAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN
12 LIMITATIONS.—Funding under this para-
13 graph shall be in addition to the dollar
14 program limitations specified in paragraph
15 (4).
16 "(ii) LIMITATION ON USE OF
17 FUNDS.—The Administration may carry
18 out this paragraph only with amounts ap-
19 propriated in advance specifically to carry
20 out this paragraph.".

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111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1838

To amend the Small Business Act to modify certain provisions relating to women's business centers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2009

MS. FALLIN (for herself, Ms. CLARKE, and Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

---

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to modify certain provisions relating to women's business centers, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NOTIFICATION OF GRANTS; PUBLICATION OF GRANT AMOUNTS.

Section 29 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656) is amended by adding the following new subsection at the end thereof:

"(o) NOTIFICATION OF GRANTS; PUBLICATION OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—The Administrator shall disburse

1 funds to a women's business center not later than one
2 month after the center's application is approved under this
3 section. At the end of each fiscal year the Administrator
4 (acting through the Office of Women's Business owner-
5 ship) shall publish on the Administration's website a re-
6 port setting forth the total amount of the grants made
7 under this Act to each women's business center in the fis-
8 cal year for which the report is issued, the total amount
9 of such grants made in each prior fiscal year to each such
10 center, and the total amount of private matching funds
11 provided by each such center over the lifetime of the cen-
12 ter.".

13 **SEC. 2. COMMUNICATIONS.**

14 Section 29 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
15 656), as amended, is further amended by adding the fol-
16 lowing new subsection at the end thereof:

17 "(p) COMMUNICATIONS.—The Administrator shall
18 establish, by rule, a standardized process to communicate
19 with women's business centers regarding program admin-
20 istration matters, including reimbursement, regulatory
21 matters, and programmatic changes. The Administrator
22 shall notify each women's business center of the oppor-
23 tunity for notice and comment on the proposed rule.".

1 **SEC. 3. FUNDING.**

2 (a) FORMULA.—Section 29(b) of the Small Business
3 Act (15 U.S.C. 656(b)) is amended to read as follows:

4 "(b) AUTHORITY.—

5 "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may
6 provide financial assistance to private nonprofit or-
7 ganizations to conduct projects for the benefit of
8 small business concerns owned and controlled by
9 women. The projects shall provide—

10 "(A) financial assistance, including train-
11 ing and counseling in how to apply for and se-
12 cure business credit and investment capital,
13 preparing and presenting financial statements,
14 and managing cash flow and other financial op-
15 erations of a business concern;

16 "(B) management assistance, including
17 training and counseling in how to plan, orga-
18 nize, staff, direct, and control each major activ-
19 ity and function of a small business concern;
20 and

21 "(C) marketing assistance, including train-
22 ing and counseling in identifying and seg-
23 menting domestic and international market op-
24 portunities, preparing and executing marketing
25 plans, developing pricing strategies, locating
26 contract opportunities, negotiating contracts,

1 and utilizing varying public relations and adver-
2 tising techniques.
3 "(2) TIERS.—The Administrator shall provide
4 assistance under paragraph (1) in 3 tiers of assist-
5 ance as follows:
6 "(A) The first tier shall be to conduct a 5-
7 year project in a situation where a project has
8 not previously been conducted. Such a project
9 shall be in a total amount of not more than
10 $150,000 per year.
11 "(B) The second tier shall be to conduct a
12 3-year project in a situation where a first-tier
13 project is being completed. Such a project shall
14 be in a total amount of not more than
15 $100,000 per year.
16 "(C) The third tier shall be to conduct a
17 3-year project in a situation where a second-tier
18 project is being completed. Such a project shall
19 be in a total amount of not more than
20 $100,000 per year. Third-tier grants shall be
21 renewable subject to established eligibility cri-
22 teria as well as criteria in subsection (b)(4).
23 "(3) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts
24 made available for assistance under this subsection,
25 the Administrator shall allocate—

1 "(A) at least 40 percent for first-tier
2 projects under paragraph (2)(A);
3 "(B) 20 percent for second-tier projects
4 under paragraph (2)(B); and
5 "(C) the remainder for third-tier projects
6 under paragraph (2)(C).
7 "(4) BENCHMARKS FOR THIRD-TIER
8 PROJECTS.—In awarding third-tier projects under
9 paragraph (2)(C), the Administrator shall use
10 benchmarks based on socio-economic factors in the
11 community and on the performance of the applicant.
12 The benchmarks shall include—
13 "(A) the total number of women served by
14 the project;
15 "(B) the proportion of low income women
16 and socio-economic distribution of clients served
17 by the project;
18 "(C) the proportion of individuals in the
19 community that are socially or economically dis-
20 advantaged (based on median income);
21 "(D) the future fund-raising and service
22 coordination plans;
23 "(E) the diversity of services provided; and

1 "(F) geographic distribution within and
2 across the 10 regions of the Small Business Ad-
3 ministration.".
4 (b) MATCHING.—Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of sec-
5 tion 29(c)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
6 656(c)(1)) are amended to read as follows:
7 "(A) For the first and second years of the
8 project, 1 non-Federal dollar for each 2 Federal
9 dollars.
10 "(B) Each year after the second year of
11 the project—
12 "(i) 1 non-Federal dollar for each
13 Federal dollar; or
14 "(ii) if the center is in a community
15 at least 50 percent of the population of
16 which is below the median income for the
17 State or United States territory in which
18 the center is located, 1 non-Federal dollar
19 for each 2 Federal dollars.".
20 (c) AUTHORIZATION.—Section 20 of the Small Busi-
21 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended by inserting
22 the following new subsection after subsection (e):
23 "(f) WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTERS.—There is au-
24 thorized to be appropriated for purposes of grants under
25 section 29 to women's business centers not more than

1 $20,000,000 in fiscal year 2010 and not more than
2 $22,000,000 in fiscal year 2011.".

3 **SEC. 4. PERFORMANCE AND PLANNING.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 29(h)(1) of the Small
5 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(h)(1)) is amended by strik-
6 ing the "and" at the end of subparagraph (A), redesig-
7 nating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (D), and in-
8 serting the following new subparagraphs after subpara-
9 graph (A):

10 "(B) establish performance measures, tak-
11 ing into account the demographic differences of
12 populations served by women's business centers,
13 which measures shall include—

14 "(i) outcome-based measures of the
15 amount of job creation or economic activity
16 generated in the local community as a re-
17 sult of efforts made and services provided
18 by each women's business center, and

19 "(ii) service-based measures of the
20 amount of services provided to individuals
21 and small business concerns served by each
22 women's business center;

23 "(C) require each women's business center
24 to submit an annual plan for the next year that
25 includes the center's funding sources and

1 amounts, strategies for increasing outreach to
2 women-owned businesses, strategies for increas-
3 ing job growth in the community, and other
4 content as determined by the Administrator;
5 and".

6 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 29(h)(1) of
7 the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(h)(1)), as amend-
8 ed, is further amended by adding the following at the end
9 thereof:

10 "The Administrator's evaluation of each women's
11 business center as required by this subsection shall
12 be in part based on the performance measures under
13 subparagraphs (B) and (C). These measures and the
14 Administrator's evaluations thereof shall be made
15 publicly available.".

16 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL WOMEN'S BUSINESS COUNCIL.**

17 The Women's Business Ownership Act of 1988 is
18 amended as follows:

19 (1) In section 409(a) (15 U.S.C. 7109(a)), add
20 the following at the end thereof: "Such studies shall
21 include a study on the impact of the 2008–2009 fi-
22 nancial markets crisis on women-owned businesses,
23 and a study of the use of the Small Business Admin-
24 istration's programs by women-owned businesses.".

1 (2) In section 410(a) (15 U.S.C. 7110(a)),
2 strike out "2001 through 2003" and insert "2010
3 and 2011".

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AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
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111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1839

To amend the Small Business Act to improve SCORE, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2009

Mr. BUCHANAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

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A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to improve SCORE, 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. EXPANSION OF VOLUNTEER REPRESENTATION**
4 **AND BENCHMARK REPORTS.**

5 (a) EXPANSION OF VOLUNTEER REPRESENTA-
6 TION.—Section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15
7 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)) is amended by inserting "(i)" after
8 "(B)" and by adding at the end the following:

9 "(ii) The Administrator shall ensure that
10 SCORE, established under this subparagraph, car-
11 ries out a plan to increase the proportion of mentors

1 who are from socially or economically disadvantaged
2 backgrounds and, on an annual basis, reports to the
3 Administrator on the implementation of this sub-
4 paragraph.".

5 (b) BENCHMARK REPORTS.—Section 8(b)(1)(B) of
6 the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)), as
7 amended, is further amended by adding at the end the
8 following:

9 "(iii) The Administrator shall ensure that
10 SCORE, established under this subparagraph, estab-
11 lishes benchmarks for use in evaluating the perform-
12 ance of its activities and the performance of its vol-
13 unteers. The benchmarks shall include benchmarks
14 relating to the demographic characteristics and the
15 geographic characteristics of persons assisted by
16 SCORE, benchmarks relating to the hours spent
17 mentoring by volunteers, and benchmarks relating to
18 the performance of the persons assisted by SCORE.
19 SCORE shall report, on an annual basis, to the Ad-
20 ministrator the extent to which the benchmarks es-
21 tablished under this clause are being attained.".

22 **SEC. 2. MENTORING AND NETWORKING.**

23 Section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15
24 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)), as amended, is further amended by
25 adding at the end the following:

1 "(iv) The Administrator shall ensure that
2 SCORE, established under this subparagraph, estab-
3 lishes a mentoring program for small business con-
4 cerns that provides one-on-one advice to small busi-
5 ness concerns from qualified counselors. For pur-
6 poses of this clause, qualified counselors are coun-
7 selors with at least 10 years experience in the indus-
8 try sector or area of responsibility of the small busi-
9 ness concern seeking advice.
10 "(v) The Administrator shall carry out a net-
11 working program through SCORE, established
12 under this subparagraph, that provides small busi-
13 ness concerns with the opportunity to make business
14 contacts in their industry or geographic region.".

15 **SEC. 3. NAME OF PROGRAM CHANGED TO SCORE.**

16 (a) NAME CHANGE.—The Small Business Act is
17 amended—
18 (1) in section 8(b)(1)(B) (15 U.S.C.
19 637(b)(1)(B)), by striking "Executives (SCORE)"
20 and inserting "Executives (in this Act referred to as
21 'SCORE')";
22 (2) in section 7(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII) (15 U.S.C.
23 636(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII)), by striking "the Service
24 Corps of Retired Executives" and inserting
25 "SCORE";

(3) in section 20 (15 U.S.C. 631 note)—

(A) in subsection (d)(1)(E), by striking "the Service Corps of Retired Executives program" and inserting "SCORE"; and

(B) in subsection (e)(1)(E), by striking "the Service Corps of Retired Executives program" and inserting "SCORE"; and

(4) in section 33(b)(2) (15 U.S.C. 657e(b)(2), by striking "the Service Corps of Retired Executives program" and inserting "SCORE".

(b) ELIMINATION OF ACE.—Section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)), as amended, is further amended by striking "and an Active Corps of Executive (ACE)".

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended by inserting the following new subsection after subsection (e):

"(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR SCORE.—There is authorized to be appropriated $7,000,000 for SCORE under section 8(b)(1) for each of the fiscal years 2010 and 2011.".

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111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1842

To amend the Small Business Act to improve the Small Business Administration's entrepreneurial development programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2009

Mr. LUETKEMEYER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

---

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to improve the Small Business Administration's entrepreneurial development programs, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Expanding Entrepreneurship Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. EXPANDING ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

Section 4 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 633) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(g) MANAGEMENT AND DIRECTION.—

1 "(1) PLAN FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOP-
2 MENT AND JOB CREATION STRATEGY.—The Admin-
3 istrator shall develop and submit to Congress a plan
4 for using the Small Business Administration's entre-
5 preneurial development programs as a catalyst for
6 job creation for fiscal years 2009 and 2010. The
7 plan shall include the Administration's plan for
8 drawing on existing programs, including Small Busi-
9 ness Development Centers, Women's Business Cen-
10 ters, SCORE, Veterans Business Centers, Native
11 American Outreach, and other appropriate pro-
12 grams. The Administrator shall identify a strategy
13 for each Administration region to create or retain
14 jobs through Administration programs. The Admin-
15 istrator shall identify, in consultation with appro-
16 priate personnel from entrepreneurial development
17 programs, performance measures and criteria, in-
18 cluding job creation, job retention, and job retrain-
19 ing goals, to evaluate the success of the Administra-
20 tion's actions regarding these efforts.
21 "(2) DATA COLLECTION PROCESS.—The Ad-
22 ministrator shall develop and implement a consistent
23 data collection process to cover all entrepreneurial
24 development programs. Such data collection process
25 shall include data relating to job creation, perform-

1 ance, and any other data determined appropriate by
2 the Administrator with respect to the Administra-
3 tion's entrepreneurial development programs.
4 "(3) COORDINATION AND ALIGNMENT OF SBA
5 ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.—
6 The Administrator shall submit annually to Con-
7 gress, in consultation with other Federal depart-
8 ments and agencies as appropriate, a report on op-
9 portunities to foster coordination, limit duplication,
10 and improve program delivery for Federal entrepre-
11 neurial development programs.
12 "(4) DATABASE OF ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVEL-
13 OPMENT SERVICE PROVIDERS.—The Administrator
14 shall establish a database of providers of entrepre-
15 neurial development services and make such data-
16 base available through the Administration's Web
17 site. The database shall be searchable by industry,
18 geography, and service required.
19 "(5) COMMUNITY SPECIALIST.—The Adminis-
20 trator shall designate not less than one staff member
21 in each Administration district office as a commu-
22 nity specialist who has as their full-time responsi-
23 bility working with local entrepreneurial development
24 service providers to increase coordination with Fed-
25 eral resources. The Administrator shall develop

1 benchmarks for measuring the performance of com-
2 munity specialists under this subsection.
3 "(6) ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT POR-
4 TAL.—The Administrator shall establish a Web-
5 based portal that provides comprehensive informa-
6 tion on the Administration's entrepreneurial develop-
7 ment programs. The Administrator shall—
8 "(A) integrate under one Web portal,
9 Small Business Development Centers, Women's
10 Business Centers, SCORE, Veterans Business
11 Centers, the Administration's distance learning
12 program, and other programs as appropriate;
13 "(B) revise the Administration's primary
14 Web site so that the Web portal described in
15 subparagraph (A) is available as a link on the
16 main Web page of the Web site;
17 "(C) increase consumer-oriented content
18 on the Administration's Web site and focus on
19 promoting access to business solutions, includ-
20 ing marketing, financing, and human resources
21 planning;
22 "(D) establish relevant Web content aggre-
23 gated by industry segment, stage of business
24 development, level of need, and include referral
25 links to appropriate Administration services, in-

1 cluding financing, training and counseling, and
2 procurement assistance; and
3 "(E) provide style guidelines and links for
4 visitors to the Administration's Web site to be
5 able to comment on and evaluate the materials
6 in terms of their usefulness.
7 "(7) PILOT PROGRAMS.—The Administrator
8 may not conduct any pilot program for a period of
9 greater than 3 years if the program conflicts with,
10 or uses the resources of, any of the entrepreneurial
11 development programs authorized under section
12 8(b)(1)(B), 21, 29, 32, or any other provision of this
13 Act.".

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111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1845

To amend the Small Business Act to modernize Small Business Development Centers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2009

Mr. SCHOCK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

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A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to modernize Small Business Development Centers, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Small Business Development Centers Modernization Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS OPERATIONAL CHANGES.

(a) ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENT.—Section 21(a)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(1)) is amended as follows:

1 (1) In the proviso, by inserting before "institu-
2 tion" the following: "accredited".
3 (2) In the sentence beginning "The Administra-
4 tion shall", by inserting before "institutions" the fol-
5 lowing: "accredited".
6 (3) By adding at the end the following new sen-
7 tence: "In this paragraph, the term 'accredited insti-
8 tution of higher education' means an institution that
9 is accredited as described in section 101(a)(5) of the
10 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
11 1001(a)(5)).".
12 (b) PROGRAM NEGOTIATIONS.—Section 21(a)(3) of
13 the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)) is amended
14 in the matter before subparagraph (A), by inserting before
15 "agreed" the following: "mutually".
16 (c) CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS.—Section 21(a)(3)(A)
17 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)(A)) is
18 amended by inserting after "uniform negotiated" the fol-
19 lowing: "mutually agreed to".
20 (d) SBDC HIRING.—Section 21(c)(2)(A) of the
21 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(c)(2)(A)) is amended
22 by inserting after "full-time staff" the following: ", the
23 hiring of which shall be at the sole discretion of the center
24 without the need for input or approval from any officer
25 or employee of the Administration".

1 (e) CONTENT OF CONSULTATIONS.—Section
2 21(a)(7)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
3 648(a)(7)(A)) is amended in the matter before clause (i)
4 by inserting after "under this section" the following: ",
5 or the content of any consultation with such an individual
6 or small business concern,".
7 (f) AMOUNTS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—
8 Section 21(a)(4)(C)(v)(I) of the Small Business Act (15
9 U.S.C. 648(a)(4)(C)(v)(I)) is amended to read as follows:
10 "(I) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts
11 made available in any fiscal year to carry
12 out this section, not more than $500,000
13 may be used by the Administration to pay
14 expenses enumerated in subparagraphs (B)
15 through (D) of section 20(a)(1).".
16 (g) NON-MATCHING PORTABILITY GRANTS.—Section
17 21(a)(4)(C)(viii) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
18 648(a)(4)(C)(viii)) is amended by adding at the end the
19 following: "In the event of a disaster, the dollar limitation
20 in the preceding sentence shall not apply.".
21 (h) DISTRIBUTION TO SBDCS.—Section 21(b) of the
22 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(b)) is amended by
23 adding at the end the following new paragraph:
24 "(4) LIMITATION ON DISTRIBUTION TO SMALL BUSI-
25 NESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—

1 "(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise pro-
2 vided in this paragraph, the Administration shall not
3 distribute funds to a Small Business Development
4 Center if the State in which the Small Business De-
5 velopment Center is located is served by more than
6 one Small Business Development Center.
7 "(B) UNAVAILABILITY EXCEPTION.—The Ad-
8 ministration may distribute funds to a maximum of
9 2 Small Business Development Centers in any State
10 if no applicant has applied to serve the entire State.
11 "(C) GRANDFATHER CLAUSE.—The limitations
12 in this paragraph shall not apply to any State in
13 which more than one Small Business Development
14 Center received funding prior to January 1, 2007.
15 "(D) DEFINITION.—For the purposes of this
16 paragraph, the term 'Small Business Development
17 Center' means the entity selected by the Administra-
18 tion to receive funds pursuant to the funding for-
19 mula set forth in subsection (a)(4), without regard
20 to the number of sites for service delivery such enti-
21 ty establishes or funds.".
22 (i) WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTERS.—Section 21(a)(1)
23 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(1)), as
24 amended, is further amended by striking "or a women's
25 business center operating pursuant to section 29" and by

1 striking "and women's business centers operating pursu-
2 ant to section 29".

3 **SEC. 3. ACCESS TO CREDIT AND CAPITAL.**

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

7 "(o) ACCESS TO CREDIT AND CAPITAL PROGRAM.—

8 "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administration shall
9 establish a grant program for small business devel-
10 opment centers in accordance with this subsection.
11 To be eligible for the program, a small business de-
12 velopment center must be in good standing and com-
13 ply with the other requirements of this section.
14 Funds made available through the program shall be
15 used to—

16 "(A) develop specialized programs to assist
17 local small business concerns in securing capital
18 and repairing damaged credit;

19 "(B) provide informational seminars on se-
20 curing credit and loans;

21 "(C) provide one-on-one counseling with
22 potential borrowers to improve financial presen-
23 tations to lenders; and

"(D) facilitate borrowers' access to non-traditional financing sources, as well as traditional lending sources.

"(2) AWARD SIZE LIMIT.—The Administration may not award an entity more than $300,000 in grant funds under this subsection.

"(3) AUTHORITY.—Subject to amounts approved in advance in appropriations Acts and separate from amounts approved to carry out the program established in subsection (a)(1), the Administration may make grants or enter into cooperative agreements to carry out this subsection.

"(4) AUTHORIZATION.—There is authorized to be appropriated not more than $2,500,000 for the purposes of carrying out this subsection for each of the fiscal years 2010 and 2011.".

SEC. 4. PROCUREMENT TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE.

Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648), as amended, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(p) PROCUREMENT TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administration shall establish a grant program for small business development centers in accordance with this subsection. To be eligible for the program, a small business de-

1 velopment center must be in good standing and com-
2 ply with the other requirements of this section.
3 Funds made available through the program shall be
4 used to—

5 "(A) work with local agencies to identify
6 contracts that are suitable for local small busi-
7 ness concerns;

8 "(B) prepare small businesses to be ready
9 as subcontractors and prime contractors for
10 contracts made available under the American
11 Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public
12 Law 111–5) through training and business ad-
13 visement, particularly in the construction
14 trades; and

15 "(C) provide technical assistance regarding
16 the Federal procurement process, including as-
17 sisting small business concerns to comply with
18 federal regulations and bonding requirements.

19 "(2) AWARD SIZE LIMIT.—The Administration
20 may not award an entity more than $300,000 in
21 grant funds under this subsection.

22 "(3) AUTHORITY.—Subject to amounts ap-
23 proved in advance in appropriations Acts and sepa-
24 rate from amounts approved to carry out the pro-
25 gram established in subsection (a)(1), the Adminis-

1 tration may make grants or enter into cooperative
2 agreements to carry out this subsection.
3 "(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
4 There is authorized to be appropriated not more
5 than $2,500,000 for the purposes of carrying out
6 this subsection for each of the fiscal years 2010 and
7 2011.".

8 **SEC. 5. GREEN ENTREPRENEURS TRAINING PROGRAM.**

9 Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
10 648), as amended, is further amended by adding at the
11 end the following new subsection:
12 "(q) GREEN ENTREPRENEURS TRAINING PRO-
13 GRAM.—
14 "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administration shall
15 establish a grant program for small business devel-
16 opment centers in accordance with this subsection.
17 To be eligible for the program, a small business de-
18 velopment center must be in good standing and com-
19 ply with the other requirements of this section.
20 Funds made available through the program shall be
21 used to—
22 "(A) provide education classes and one-on-
23 one instruction in starting a business in the
24 fields of energy efficiency, green technology, or
25 clean technology;

"(B) coordinate such classes and instruction, to the extent practicable, with local community colleges and local professional trade associations; and

"(C) assist and provide technical counseling to individuals seeking to start a business in the fields of energy efficiency, green technology, or clean technology.

"(2) AWARD SIZE LIMIT.—The Administration may not award an entity more than $300,000 in grant funds under this subsection.

"(3) AUTHORITY.—Subject to amounts approved in advance in appropriations Acts and separate from amounts approved to carry out the program established in subsection (a)(1), the Administration may make grants or enter into cooperative agreements to carry out this subsection.

"(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated not more than $2,500,000 for the purposes of carrying out this subsection for each of the fiscal years 2010 and 2011.".

1 **SEC. 6. MAIN STREET STABILIZATION.**

2 Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
3 648), as amended, is further amended by adding the fol-
4 lowing new subsection at the end thereof:

5 "(r) MAIN STREET STABILIZATION.—

6 "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administration shall
7 establish a grant program for small business devel-
8 opment centers in accordance with this subsection.
9 To be eligible for the program, a small business de-
10 velopment center must be in good standing and com-
11 ply with the other requirements of this section.
12 Funds made available through the program shall be
13 used to—

14 "(A) establish a statewide small business
15 helpline within every State and United States
16 territory to provide immediate expert informa-
17 tion and assistance to small business concerns;

18 "(B) develop a portfolio of online survival
19 and growth tools and resources that struggling
20 small business concerns can utilize through the
21 Internet;

22 "(C) develop business advisory capacity to
23 provide expert consulting and education to as-
24 sist small businesses at-risk of failure and to, in
25 areas of high demand, shorten the response
26 time of small business development centers,

1 and, in rural areas, support added outreach in
2 remote communities;
3 "(D) deploy additional resources to help
4 specific industry sectors with a high presence of
5 small business concerns, which shall be targeted
6 toward clusters of small businesses with similar
7 needs and build upon best practices from earlier
8 assistance;
9 "(E) develop a formal listing of financing
10 options for small business capital access; and
11 "(F) deliver services that help dislocated
12 workers start new businesses.
13 "(2) AWARD SIZE LIMIT.—The Administration
14 may not award an entity more than $250,000 in
15 grant funds under this subsection.
16 "(3) AUTHORITY.—Subject to amounts ap-
17 proved in advance in appropriations Acts and sepa-
18 rate from amounts approved to carry out the pro-
19 gram established in subsection (a)(1), the Adminis-
20 tration may make grants or enter into cooperative
21 agreements to carry out this subsection.
22 "(4) AUTHORIZATION.—There is authorized to
23 be appropriated not more than $2,500,000 for the
24 purposes of carrying out this subsection for each of
25 the fiscal years 2010 and 2011.".

1 **SEC. 7. PROHIBITION ON PROGRAM INCOME BEING USED**
2 **AS MATCHING FUNDS.**

3 Section 21(a)(4)(B) (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(4)(B)) is
4 amended by inserting after "Federal program" the fol-
5 lowing: "and shall not include any funds obtained through
6 the assessment of fees to small business clients".

7 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631
9 note) is amended by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-
10 lowing new subsection:

11 "(f) SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—
12 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out the
13 Small Business Development Center Program under sec-
14 tion 21 $150,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and
15 $160,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.".

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