

Union Calendar No. 341

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4121

[Report No. 113-461]

To amend the Small Business Act to provide for improvements to small business development centers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 28, 2014

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

MAY 21, 2014

Additional sponsor: Mr. MURPHY of Florida

MAY 21, 2014

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on February 28, 2014]

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to provide for improvements to small business development centers.

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.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Small Business Develop-*
5 *ment Centers Improvement Act of 2014”.*

6 **SEC. 2. USE OF AUTHORIZED ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOP-**
7 **MENT PROGRAMS.**

8 *The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is*
9 *amended by adding at the end the following:*

10 **“SEC. 48. USE OF AUTHORIZED ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVEL-**
11 **OPMENT PROGRAMS.**

12 *“(a) EXPANDED SUPPORT FOR ENTREPRENEURS.—*

13 *“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other*
14 *provision of law, the Administrator shall only use the*
15 *programs authorized in sections 7(j), 7(m), 8(a),*
16 *8(b)(1), 21, 22, 29, and 32 of this Act, and sections*
17 *358 and 389 of the Small Business Investment Act to*
18 *deliver entrepreneurial development services, entrepre-*
19 *neurial education, business incubation services,*
20 *growth acceleration services, support for the develop-*
21 *ment and maintenance of clusters, or business train-*
22 *ing.*

23 *“(2) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply*
24 *to services provided to assist small business concerns*
25 *owned by an Indian tribe.*

1 “(b) *ANNUAL REPORT.*—Beginning on the first Decem-
2 ber 1 after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Ad-
3 ministrator shall annually report to the Committee on
4 Small Business of the House of Representatives and the
5 Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the
6 Senate on all entrepreneurial development activities under-
7 taken in the current fiscal year. This report shall include—

8 “(1) a description and operating details for each
9 program and activity;

10 “(2) operating circulars, manuals, and standard
11 operating procedures for each program and activity;

12 “(3) a description of the process used to award
13 grants under each program and activity;

14 “(4) a list of all awardees, contractors, and ven-
15 dors (including organization name and location) and
16 the amount of awards for the current fiscal year for
17 each program and activity;

18 “(5) the amount of funding obligated for the cur-
19 rent fiscal year for each program and activity; and

20 “(6) the names and titles for those individuals
21 responsible for each program and activity.”.

22 **SEC. 3. MARKETING OF SERVICES.**

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

1 “(o) *NO PROHIBITION OF MARKETING OF SERVICES.*—
2 *The Administrator shall not prohibit applicants receiving*
3 *grants under this section from marketing and advertising*
4 *their services to individuals and small businesses.”.*

5 **SEC. 4. CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS.**

6 *Section 21(a)(7)(A) of the Small Business Act (15*
7 *U.S.C. 648(a)(7)(A)) is amended by inserting after “under*
8 *this section” the following: “to any State, local or Federal*
9 *agency or third party”.*

10 **SEC. 5. DATA COLLECTION.**

11 *(a) IN GENERAL.*—*Section 21(a)(3)(A) of the Small*
12 *Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)(A)) is amended—*

13 *(1) in clause (ii), by striking “as provided in*
14 *this section and” and inserting “as provided in this*
15 *section,”; and*

16 *(2) by inserting before the period at the end the*
17 *following: “, and (iv) governing data collection activi-*
18 *ties related to applicants receiving grants under this*
19 *section”.*

20 *(b) ANNUAL REPORT ON DATA COLLECTION.*—*Section*
21 *21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648), as amended*
22 *by section 3 of this Act, is further amended by adding at*
23 *the end the following:*

24 “(p) *ANNUAL REPORT ON DATA COLLECTION.*—*The*
25 *Administrator shall report annually to the Committee on*

1 *Small Business of the House of Representatives and the*
2 *Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the*
3 *Senate on data collection activities related to the Small*
4 *Business Development Center program.”.*

5 **SEC. 6. MATCHMAKING AND OTHER EVENTS.**

6 *Section 21(a)(3)(C) of the Small Business Act (15*
7 *U.S.C. 648(a)(3)(C)) is amended to read as follows:*

8 *“(C) Such participation in private partnerships*
9 *and cosponsorships with the Administration shall not*
10 *limit Small Business Development Centers from col-*
11 *lecting fees or other income related to the operation*
12 *of such partnerships and cosponsorships.”.*

13 **SEC. 7. EQUITY FOR SBDCS.**

14 *Section 21(a)(4)(C)(v)(I) of the Small Business Act*
15 *(15 U.S.C. 648(a)(4)(C)(v)(I)) is amended—*

16 *(1) in item (aa), by striking “; and” and insert-*
17 *ing a period; and*

18 *(2) by striking item (bb).*

19 **SEC. 8. AWARD OF GRANTS TO SBDCS.**

20 *Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648),*
21 *as amended by sections 3 and 5 of this Act, is further*
22 *amended by adding at the end the following:*

23 *“(q) LIMITATION ON AWARD OF GRANTS.—Except for*
24 *not-for-profit institutions of higher education, notwith-*
25 *standing any provision of law, the Administrator shall not*

1 *award grants (including contracts and cooperative agree-*
2 *ments) under this section to any entity other than those*
3 *that received grants (including contracts and cooperative*
4 *agreements) under this section prior to September 30, 2014,*
5 *and that seek to renew such grants (including contracts and*
6 *cooperative agreements) after such date.”.*

7 **SEC. 9. DISASTER REFORMS.**

8 *Section 21(b)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.*
9 *648(b)(3)) is amended—*

10 *(1) by striking “(3) At the discretion” and in-*
11 *serting the following:*

12 *“(3) ASSISTANCE TO OUT-OF-STATE SMALL BUSI-*
13 *NESSES.—*

14 *“(A) IN GENERAL.—At the discretion”; and*

15 *(2) by adding at the end the following:*

16 *“(B) DISASTER RECOVERY ASSISTANCE.—*

17 *“(i) IN GENERAL.—At the discretion of*
18 *the Administrator, the Administrator may*
19 *authorize a small business development cen-*
20 *ter to provide assistance, as described in*
21 *subsection (c), to a small business concern*
22 *located outside of the State, without regard*
23 *to geographic proximity, if the small busi-*
24 *ness concern is located in an area for which*
25 *the President has declared a major disaster*

1 under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford
2 Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance
3 Act (42 U.S.C. 5170), during the period of
4 the declaration.

5 “(ii) *CONTINUITY OF SERVICES.*—A
6 small business development center that pro-
7 vides counselors to an area described in
8 clause (i) shall, to the maximum extent
9 practicable, ensure continuity of services in
10 any State in which the small business devel-
11 opment center otherwise provides services.

12 “(iii) *ACCESS TO DISASTER RECOVERY*
13 *FACILITIES.*—For purposes of this subpara-
14 graph, the Administrator shall, to the max-
15 imum extent practicable, permit the per-
16 sonnel of a small business development cen-
17 ter to use any site or facility designated by
18 the Administrator for use to provide dis-
19 aster recovery assistance.”.

20 **SEC. 10. INCLUSIONS OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING**
21 **FOR UNEMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS.**

22 Section 21(c)(3)(A) of the Small Business Act (15
23 U.S.C. 648(c)(3)(A)) is amended—

24 (1) in clause (iii), by striking “and” at the end;

1 (2) *in clause (iv), by inserting “and” at the end;*

2 *and*

3 (3) *by adding at the end the following:*

4 “(v) *educating unemployed individuals on*
5 *entrepreneurship and working with such individ-*
6 *uals to start new businesses;”.*

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