

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 1700

AN ACT

To amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This title may be cited as the “SCORE for Small
3 Business Act of 2018”.

4 **SEC. 2. SCORE REAUTHORIZATION.**

5 Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631
6 note) is amended—

7 (1) by redesignating subsection (j) as sub-
8 section (f); and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(g) SCORE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be
11 appropriated to the Administrator to carry out the
12 SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1) such sums
13 as are necessary for the Administrator to make grants or
14 enter into cooperative agreements in a total amount that
15 does not exceed \$10,500,000 in each of fiscal years 2019
16 and 2020.”.

17 **SEC. 3. SCORE PROGRAM.**

18 Section 8 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637)
19 is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

21 (A) by striking “a Service Corps of Retired
22 Executives (SCORE)” and inserting “the
23 SCORE program described in subsection (c)”;
24 and

25 (B) by striking “SCORE may” and insert-
26 ing “the SCORE program may”; and

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) SCORE PROGRAM.—

“(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection:

“(A) SCORE ASSOCIATION.—The term ‘SCORE Association’ means the Service Corps of Retired Executives Association or any successor or other organization that receives a grant from the Administrator to operate the SCORE program under paragraph (2)(A).

“(B) SCORE PROGRAM.—The term ‘SCORE program’ means the SCORE program authorized by subsection (b)(1)(B).

“(2) MANAGEMENT AND VOLUNTEERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall provide a grant to the SCORE Association to manage the SCORE program.

“(B) VOLUNTEERS.—A volunteer participating in the SCORE program shall—

“(i) based on the business experience and knowledge of the volunteer—

“(I) provide at no cost to individuals who own, or aspire to own, small business concerns personal counseling, mentoring, and coaching relating to

1 the process of starting, expanding,
2 managing, buying, and selling a busi-
3 ness; and

4 “(II) facilitate low-cost education
5 workshops for individuals who own, or
6 aspire to own, small business con-
7 cerns; and

8 “(ii) as appropriate, use tools, re-
9 sources, and expertise of other organiza-
10 tions to carry out the SCORE program.

11 “(3) PLANS AND GOALS.—The Administrator,
12 in consultation with the SCORE Association, shall
13 ensure that the SCORE program and each chapter
14 of the SCORE program develop and implement
15 plans and goals to more effectively and efficiently
16 provide services to individuals in rural areas, eco-
17 nomically disadvantaged communities, and other tra-
18 ditionally underserved communities, including plans
19 for electronic initiatives, web-based initiatives, chap-
20 ter expansion, partnerships, and the development of
21 new skills by volunteers participating in the SCORE
22 program.

23 “(4) ANNUAL REPORT.—The SCORE Associa-
24 tion shall submit to the Administrator an annual re-
25 port that contains—

1 “(A) the number of individuals counseled
2 or trained under the SCORE program;

3 “(B) the number of hours of counseling
4 provided under the SCORE program; and

5 “(C) to the extent possible—

6 “(i) the number of small business con-
7 cerns formed with assistance from the
8 SCORE program;

9 “(ii) the number of small business
10 concerns expanded with assistance from
11 the SCORE program; and

12 “(iii) the number of jobs created with
13 assistance from the SCORE program.

14 “(5) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Neither the Adminis-
16 trator nor the SCORE Association may disclose
17 the name, address, or telephone number of any
18 individual or small business concern receiving
19 assistance from the SCORE Association with-
20 out the consent of such individual or small busi-
21 ness concern, unless—

22 “(i) the Administrator is ordered to
23 make such a disclosure by a court in any
24 civil or criminal enforcement action initi-
25 ated by a Federal or State agency; or

1 “(ii) the Administrator determines
2 such a disclosure to be necessary for the
3 purpose of conducting a financial audit of
4 the SCORE program, in which case disclo-
5 sure shall be limited to the information
6 necessary for the audit.

7 “(B) ADMINISTRATOR USE OF INFORMA-
8 TION.—This paragraph shall not—

9 “(i) restrict the access of the Adminis-
10 trator to program activity data; or

11 “(ii) prevent the Administrator from
12 using client information to conduct client
13 surveys.

14 “(C) STANDARDS.—

15 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator
16 shall, after the opportunity for notice and
17 comment, establish standards for—

18 “(I) disclosures with respect to
19 financial audits under subparagraph
20 (A)(ii); and

21 “(II) conducting client surveys,
22 including standards for oversight of
23 the surveys and for dissemination and
24 use of client information.

1 “(ii) MAXIMUM PRIVACY PROTEC-
2 TION.—The standards issued under this
3 subparagraph shall, to the extent prac-
4 ticable, provide for the maximum amount
5 of privacy protection.”.

6 **SEC. 4. ONLINE COMPONENT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8(c) of the Small Busi-
8 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 637(c)), as amended by section 3,
9 is further amended by adding at the end the following:

10 “(6) ONLINE COMPONENT.—In carrying out
11 this subsection, the SCORE Association shall make
12 use of online counseling, including by developing and
13 implementing webinars and an electronic mentoring
14 platform to expand access to services provided under
15 this subsection and to further support entre-
16 preneurs.”.

17 (b) ONLINE COMPONENT REPORT.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—At the end of fiscal year
19 2019, the SCORE Association shall issue a report to
20 the Committee on Small Business of the House of
21 Representatives and the Committee on Small Busi-
22 ness and Entrepreneurship of the Senate on the ef-
23 fectiveness of the online counseling and webinars re-
24 quired as part of the SCORE program, including a
25 description of—

1 (A) how the SCORE Association deter-
2 mines electronic mentoring and webinar needs,
3 develops training for electronic mentoring, es-
4 tablishes webinar criteria curricula, and evalu-
5 ates webinar and electronic mentoring results;

6 (B) the internal controls that are used and
7 a summary of the topics covered by the
8 webinars; and

9 (C) performance metrics, including the
10 number of small business concerns counseled
11 by, the number of small business concerns cre-
12 ated by, the number of jobs created and re-
13 tained by, and the funding amounts directed to-
14 wards such online counseling and webinars.

15 (2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-
16 section, the terms “SCORE Association” and
17 “SCORE program” have the meaning given those
18 terms, respectively, under section 8(c)(1) of the
19 Small Business Act, as added by section 3 of this
20 Act.

21 **SEC. 5. STUDY AND REPORT ON THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE**
22 **SCORE PROGRAM.**

23 (a) STUDY.—The SCORE Association shall carry out
24 a study on the future role of the SCORE program and
25 develop a strategic plan for how the SCORE program will

1 meet the needs of small business concerns during the 5-
2 year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this
3 Act, with specific objectives for the first, third, and fifth
4 years of the 5-year period.

5 (b) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 6-month
6 period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act,
7 the SCORE Association shall issue a report to the Com-
8 mittee on Small Business of the House of Representatives
9 and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneur-
10 ship of the Senate containing—

11 (1) all findings and determination made in car-
12 rying out the study required under subsection (a);

13 (2) the strategic plan developed under sub-
14 section (a);

15 (3) an explanation of how the SCORE Associa-
16 tion plans to achieve the strategic plan, assuming
17 both stagnant and increased funding levels.

18 (c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the
19 terms “SCORE Association” and “SCORE program”
20 have the meaning given those terms, respectively, under
21 section 8(c)(1) of the Small Business Act, as added by
22 section 3 of this Act.

23 **SEC. 6. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

24 (a) SMALL BUSINESS ACT.—The Small Business Act
25 (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 7 (15 U.S.C. 636)—

2 (A) in subsection (b)(12)—

3 (i) in the paragraph heading, by in-
4 serting “PROGRAM” after “SCORE”; and

5 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
6 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and
7 inserting “SCORE program”; and

8 (B) in subsection (m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII), by
9 striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives”
10 and inserting “SCORE program”; and

11 (2) in section 22 (15 U.S.C. 649)—

12 (A) in subsection (b)—

13 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking
14 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and
15 inserting “SCORE program”; and

16 (ii) in paragraph (3), by striking
17 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and
18 inserting “SCORE program”; and

19 (B) in subsection (c)(12), by striking
20 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and in-
21 serting “SCORE program”.

22 (b) OTHER LAWS.—

23 (1) SMALL BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION ACT
24 OF 1997.—Section 707 of the Small Business Reau-
25 thorization Act of 1997 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is

1 amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Ex-
2 ecutives (SCORE) program” and inserting “SCORE
3 program (as defined in section 8(c)(1) of the Small
4 Business Act)”.

5 (2) VETERANS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND
6 SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1999.—Sec-
7 tion 301 of the Veterans Entrepreneurship and
8 Small Business Development Act of 1999 (15 U.S.C.
9 657b note) is amended by striking “Service Core of
10 Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE pro-
11 gram”.

12 (3) MILITARY RESERVIST AND VETERAN SMALL
13 BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION AND OPPORTUNITY
14 ACT OF 2008.—Section 3(5) of the Military Reservist
15 and Veteran Small Business Reauthorization and
16 Opportunity Act of 2008 (15 U.S.C. 636 note) is
17 amended by striking “means the SCORE program”.

18 (4) CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM
19 REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009.—Section 621 of the
20 Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthoriza-
21 tion Act of 2009 (15 U.S.C. 657p) is amended—

22 (A) in subsection (a), by striking para-
23 graph (4) and inserting the following:

24 “(4) the term ‘SCORE program’ means the
25 SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1)(B)

1 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
2 637(b)(1)(B));” and

3 (B) in subsection (b)(4)(A)(iv), by striking
4 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and in-
5 serting “SCORE program”.

6 (5) ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION
7 ACT.—Section 337(d)(2)(A) of the Energy Policy
8 and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6307(d)(2)(A)) is
9 amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Ex-
10 ecutives (SCORE)” and inserting “SCORE pro-
11 gram”.

Passed the House of Representatives July 10, 2018.

Attest:

Clerk.

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