Public Law 102-366
102d Congress

An Act

To amend the Small Business Act and related Acts to provide loan assistance to small business concerns, to extend certain demonstration programs relating to small business participation in Federal procurement, to modify certain Small Business Administration programs, to assist small firms to adjust to reductions in Defense-related business, to improve the management of certain program activities of the Small Business Administration, to provide for the undertaking of certain studies, and for other purposes.

Sept. 4, 1992
[H.R. 4111]

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

Small Business Credit and Business Opportunity Enhancement Act of 1992.
15 USC 631 note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Small Business Credit and Business Opportunity Enhancement Act of 1992".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act shall be as follows:

TITLE I—IMPROVED ACCESS TO CREDIT

Subtitle A—Section 7(a) Guaranteed Loan Program

Small Business Credit Crunch Relief Act of 1992.

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

15 USC 631 note.

This subtitle may be cited as the "Small Business Credit Crunch Relief Act of 1992".

SEC. 102. AUTHORIZATIONS.

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

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(4) Except as may be otherwise specifically provided by law, the amount of deferred participation loans authorized in this section—

"(A) shall mean the net amount of the loan principal guaranteed by the Small Business Administration (and does not include any amount which is not guaranteed); and

"(B) shall be available for a national program, except that the Administration may use not more than an amount equal to 10 percent of the amount authorized each year for any special or pilot program directed to identified sec-

tors of the small business community or to specific geographic regions of the United States.";

(2) by amending subsection (e)(2) to read as follows:

"(2) For the programs authorized by this Act, the Administration is authorized to make $5,978,000,000 in deferred participation loans and other financing. Of such sum, the Administration is authorized to make—

"(A) $5,200,000,000 in general business loans, as provided in section 7(a);

"(B) $53,000,000 in loans, as provided in section 7(a)(12)(B); and

"(C) $725,000,000 in financings, as provided in section 7(a)(13) and section 504 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958.";

(3) amending subsection (g)(2) to read as follows:

"(2) For the programs authorized by this Act, the Administration is authorized to make $7,030,000,000 in deferred participation loans and other financings. Of such sum, the Administration is authorized to make—

"(A) $6,200,000,000 in general business loans as provided in section 7(a);

"(B) $55,000,000 in loans, as provided in section 7(a)(12)(B); and

"(C) $775,000,000 in financings, as provided in section 7(a)(13) and section 504 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958."; and

(4) by amending subsection (i)(2) to read as follows:

"(2) For the programs authorized by this Act, the Administration is authorized to make $8,083,000,000 in deferred participation loans and other financings. Of such sum, the Administration is authorized to make—

"(A) $7,200,000,000 in general business loans, as provided in section 7(a);

"(B) $58,000,000 in loans, as provided in section 7(a)(12)(B); and

"(C) $825,000,000 in financings, as provided in section 7(a)(13) and section 504 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958.".

15 USC 631 note.

SEC. 103. BUY AMERICAN PREFERENCE.

In providing financial assistance with amounts appropriated pursuant to the amendments made by this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall, when practicable, accord preference to small business concerns which use or purchase equipment and supplies produced in the United States. The Administrator shall also encourage small business concerns receiving such assistance to purchase such equipment and supplies.

SEC. 104. STATE LIMITATIONS ON INTEREST RATES.

Section 7(a)(4) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(4)) is amended by striking "The rate of interest on financings made on a deferred basis shall be legal and reasonable but" and inserting the following: "Notwithstanding the provisions of the constitution of any State or the laws of any State limiting the rate or amount of interest which may be charged, taken, received, or reserved, the maximum legal rate of interest on any financing made on a deferred basis pursuant to this subsection".

Subtitle B—Microloan Demonstration Program Amendments

Microlending Expansion Act of 1992.

SEC. 111. SHORT TITLE.

15 USC 631 note.

This subtitle may be cited as the "Microlending Expansion Act of 1992".

SEC. 112. FINDINGS.

15 USC 636 note.

The Congress finds that—

(1) nationwide, there are many individuals who possess skills that, with certain short-term assistance, could enable them to become successfully self-employed;

(2) many talented and skilled individuals who are employed in low-wage occupations could, with sufficient opportunity, start their own small business concerns, which could provide them with an improved standard of living;

(3) most such individuals have little or no savings, a nonexistent or poor credit history, and no access to credit or capital with which to start a business venture;

(4) women, minorities, and individuals residing in areas of high unemployment and high levels of poverty have particular difficulty obtaining access to credit or capital;

(5) providing such individuals with small-scale, short-term financial assistance in the form of microloans, together with intensive marketing, management, and technical assistance, could enable them to start or maintain small businesses, to become self-sufficient, and to raise their standard of living;

(6) banking institutions are reluctant to provide such assistance because of the administrative costs associated with processing and servicing the loans and because they lack experience in providing the type of marketing, management, and technical assistance needed by such borrowers;

(7) many organizations that have had successful experiences in providing microloans and marketing, management, and technical assistance to such borrowers exist throughout the Nation; and

(8) loans from the Federal Government to intermediaries for the purpose of relending to start-up, newly established and growing small business concerns are an important catalyst to attract private sector participation in microlending.

SEC. 113. MICROLOAN DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(A)—

(A) by amending clause (i) to read as follows:

"(i) to assist women, low-income, and minority entrepreneurs and business owners and other such individuals possessing the capability to operate successful business concerns; and

Women. Disadvantaged. Minorities.

(B) in clause (iii)(I), by inserting ", particularly loans in amounts averaging not more than $7,500," after "small-scale loans";

(2) in paragraph (3)(A)—

(A) by striking "As part of" and inserting the following:

"(i) IN GENERAL.—As part of";

(B) by redesignating clauses (i) through (viii) as subclauses (I) through (VIII), respectively;

(C) in subclause (III), as redesignated, by striking "economic and unemployment" and inserting "economic, poverty, and unemployment";

(D) by amending subclause (VIII), as redesignated, to read as follows:

"(VIII) any plan to involve other technical assistance providers (such as counselors from the Service Corps of Retired Executives or small business development centers) or private sector lenders in assisting selected business concerns."; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

"(ii) SELECTION OF INTERMEDIARIES.—In selecting intermediaries to participate in the program established under this subsection, the Administration shall give priority to those applicants that provide loans in amounts averaging not more than $7,500.";

(3) by amending paragraph (3)(F) to read as follows:

"(F) LOAN DURATION; INTEREST RATES.—

"(i) LOAN DURATION.—Loans made by the Administration under this subsection shall be for a term of 10 years.

"(ii) APPLICABLE INTEREST RATES.—Except as provided in clause (iii), loans made by the Administration under this subsection to an intermediary shall bear an interest rate equal to 1.25 percentage points below the rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury for obligations of the United States with a period of maturity of 5 years, adjusted to the nearest one-eighth of 1 percent.

"(iii) RATES APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN SMALL LOANS.—Loans made by the Administration to an intermediary that makes loans to small business concerns and entrepreneurs averaging not more than $7,500, shall bear an interest rate that is 2 percentage points below the rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury for obligations of the United States with a period of maturity of 5 years, adjusted to the nearest one-eighth of 1 percent.

"(iv) RATES APPLICABLE TO MULTIPLE SITES OR OFFICES.—The interest rate prescribed in clause (ii) or (iii) shall apply to each separate loan-making site or office of 1 intermediary only if such site or office meets the requirements of that clause.

"(v) RATE BASIS.—The applicable rate of interest under this paragraph shall—

"(I) be applied retroactively for the first year of an intermediary's participation in the program, based upon the actual lending practices of the intermediary as determined by the Administration prior to the end of such year; and

"(II) be based in the second and subsequent years of an intermediary's participation in the program, upon the actual lending practices of the intermediary during the term of the intermediary's participation in the program.

"(vii) COVERED INTERMEDIARIES.—The interest rates prescribed in this subparagraph shall apply to all loans made to intermediaries under this subsection on or after October 28, 1991.";

(4) in paragraph (4)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "Subject to" and inserting "Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (C) and subject to"; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting in lieu thereof:

"(A) GRANT AMOUNTS.—Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (C) and subject to subparagraph (B), each intermediary that receives a loan under subparagraph (B)(i) of paragraph (1) shall be eligible to receive a grant to provide marketing, management, and technical assistance to small business concerns that are borrowers under this subsection. Except as provided in subparagraph (C), each intermediary meeting the requirements of subparagraph (B) may receive a grant of not more than 25 percent of the total outstanding balance of loans made to it under this subsection.";

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking "an amount equal to one-half of the amount of the grant" and inserting in lieu thereof "an amount equal to 25 percent of the amount of the grant";

(D) by adding at the end the following:

"(C) ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR MAKING CERTAIN LOANS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Each intermediary that has a portfolio of loans made under this subsection that averages not more than $7,500 during the period of the intermediary's participation in the program shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to 5 percent of the total outstanding balance of loans made to the intermediary under this subsection, in addition to grants made under subparagraph (A).

"(ii) PURPOSES.—A grant awarded under clause (i) may be used to provide marketing, management, and technical assistance to small business concerns that are borrowers under this subsection.

"(iii) CONTRIBUTION EXCEPTION.—The contribution requirements in subparagraph (B) do not apply to grants made under this subparagraph.

"(D) ELIGIBILITY FOR MULTIPLE SITES OR OFFICES.—The eligibility for a grant described in subparagraph (A), or (C) shall be determined separately for each loan-making site or office of 1 intermediary.";

(5) in paragraph (5)(A), by striking "2 grants" and inserting "6 grants";

(6) in paragraph (6), by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

"(C) INTEREST LIMIT.—Notwithstanding any provision of the laws of any State or the constitution of any State pertaining to the rate or amount of interest that may be charged, taken, received, or reserved on a loan, the maximum rate of interest to be charged on a microloan funded under this subsection shall not exceed the rate

of interest applicable to a loan made to an intermediary by the Administration—

"(i) in the case of a loan of more than $7,500 made by the intermediary to a small business concern or entrepreneur by more than 7.75 percentage points; and

"(ii) in the case of a loan of not more than $7,500 made by the intermediary to a small business concern or entrepreneur by more than 8.5 percentage points.";

(7) in paragraph (7)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "35 microloan programs" and inserting "60 microloan programs";

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking "25 additional" and inserting "50 additional";

(C) by amending subparagraph (C)(i) to read as follows:

"(i) be awarded more than 4 microloan programs in the first 2 years of the demonstration program nor more than 2 microloan programs in any year thereafter;";

(D) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking "$1,000,000" and inserting "$1,500,000"; and

(E) in subparagraph (C)(iii), by striking "$1,500,000" and inserting "$2,500,000";

(8) by redesignating paragraphs (9) and (10) as paragraphs (10) and (11), respectively;

(9) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

"(9) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR INTERMEDIARIES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administration may procure technical assistance for intermediaries participating in the Microloan Demonstration Program to ensure that such intermediaries have the knowledge, skills, and understanding of microlending practices necessary to operate successful microloan programs.

"(B) ASSISTANCE AMOUNT.—The Administration shall transfer 3 percent of its annual appropriation for loans under this subsection to the Administration's Salaries and Expense Account for the specific purpose of providing 1 or more technical assistance grants to experienced microlending organizations to achieve the purpose set forth in subparagraph (A).."; and

(10) in paragraph (11), as redesignated—

(A) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

"(A) the term 'intermediary' means—

"(i) a private, nonprofit entity;

"(ii) a nonprofit community development corporation;

"(iii) a consortium of private, nonprofit organizations or nonprofit community development corporations; or

"(iv) a quasi-governmental economic development entity (such as a planning and development district), other than a State, county, municipal government, or any agency thereof, if—

"(I) no application is received from an eligible nonprofit organization; or

"(II) the Administration determines that the needs of a region or geographic area are not adequately served by an existing, eligible nonprofit organization that has submitted an application,

that seeks to borrow or has borrowed funds from the Administration to make microloans to small business concerns under this subsection;".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATES.—The amendments made by paragraphs (4) and (5) of subsection (a) shall become effective on October 1, 1992. 15 USC 636 note.

SEC. 114. REGULATIONS. 15 USC 636 note.

Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Small Business Administration shall promulgate interim final regulations to implement the amendments made by this subtitle.

SEC. 115. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out the program established under section 7(m), there are authorized to be appropriated to the Small Business Administration—

"(1) for fiscal year 1992—

"(A) $45,000,000, to be used for the provision of loans; and

"(B) $10,000,000, to be used for the provision of grants;

"(2) for fiscal year 1993—

"(A) $80,000,000, to be used for the provision of loans; and

"(B) $25,000,000, to be used for the provision of grants; and

"(3) for fiscal year 1994—

"(A) $60,000,000, to be used for the provision of loans; and

"(B) $35,000,000, to be used for the provision of grants.".

(b) REPEAL OF EXISTING PROVISION.—Section 609 of Public Law 102–140 (105 Stat. 831) is amended by striking subsection (l).

TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO THE SMALL BUSINESS ACT AND RELATED ACTS

Subtitle A—Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program

SEC. 201. EXTENSION OF DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS.

(a) SMALL BUSINESS COMPETITIVENESS DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—Section 711(c) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3889) is amended to read as follows:

"(c) PROGRAM TERM.—The Program shall commence on January 1, 1989, and terminate on September 30, 1996.". Effective date. Termination date.

(b) ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM FOR CLOTHING AND TEXTILES.—Section 721(c) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3895) is amended by striking "September 30, 1992" and inserting "September 30, 1996".

(c) EXPANDING SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION IN DREDGING.—Section 722(a) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note) is amended—

(1) by striking "During fiscal years 1989, 1990, 1991, and 1992, the" and inserting "The"; and

Effective date. Termination date.

(2) by inserting before the period at the end ", commencing on October 1, 1989 and terminating on September 30, 1996".

SEC. 202. MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SMALL BUSINESS COMPETITIVENESS DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

(a) IMPLEMENTATION ON A FISCAL YEAR BASIS.—Section 712(d) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3890) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "4 quarters" in the third sentence and inserting "4 fiscal year quarters"; and

(2) in paragraph (3), by inserting "fiscal year" before "quarter".

(b) TARGETED APPLICATION OF REMEDIAL MEASURES.—Section 713(b) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3892) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking "to the extent necessary for such agency to attain its goal" and inserting "only at those buying activities of the participating agency that failed to attain the small business participation goal required by section 712(a)";

(2) by striking the third sentence; and

(3) by inserting after the first sentence, the following new sentence: "Upon determining that its contract awards to small business concerns again meet the goals required by section 712(a), a participating agency shall promptly resume the use of unrestricted solicitations pursuant to subsection (a).".

(c) RELATIONSHIP TO RELATED LAW.—Section 713 of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3892), as amended by subsection (b), is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER APPLICABLE LAW.—Solicitations for the award of contracts for architectural and engineering services (including surveying and mapping) issued by a Military Department or a Defense agency shall comply with the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) of section 2855 of title 10, United States Code.".

(d) SUBCONTRACTING ACTIVITY.—Section 714 of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3892) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

"(b) SUBCONTRACTING ACTIVITY.—

"(1) SIMPLIFIED DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM.—The Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy shall develop and implement a simplified system to collect data on the participation of small business concerns (including small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals) as other than prime contractors.

"(2) PARTICIPATING INDUSTRIES.—The system established under paragraph (1) shall be used to collect data regarding contracts for architectural and engineering services (including

surveying and mapping). The Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy may expand such system to collect data regarding such other designated industry groups as deemed appropriate.

"(3) PARTICIPATING AGENCIES.—As part of the system established under paragraph (1) data shall be collected from—

"(A) the Environmental Protection Agency;

"(B) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

"(C) the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works); and

"(D) the Department of Energy.

The Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy may require the participation of additional departments or agencies from the list of participating agencies designated in section 718.

"(4) DETERMINING SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION RATES.—The value of other than prime contract awards to small business concerns furnishing architectural and engineering services (including surveying and mapping) (or other services provided by small business concerns in other designated industry groups as may be designated for participation by the Administrator for Federal Procurement) shall be counted towards determining whether the small business participation goal required by section 712(a) has been attained.

"(5) DURATION.—The system described in subsection (a) shall be established not later than October 1, 1992 (or as soon as practicable thereafter on the first day of a subsequent quarter of fiscal year 1993), and shall terminate on September 30, 1996.". Effective date. Termination date.

(e) STATUS OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.—Section 714(c) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3892) (as redesignated by subsection (d)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by inserting "AND STATUS" after "SIZE";

(2) by inserting "and the status of the small business concern (as a small business concern owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals)" after "size of the small business concern".

(f) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Section 716 of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3893) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking "REPORT" and inserting "REPORTS";

(2) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by striking "fiscal year 1991 data is" and inserting "data for fiscal year 1991 and 1995 are"; and

(3) in subsection (c), by striking "report" and inserting "report to be submitted during calendar year 1996".

(g) IMPROVING ACCURACY OF DATA PERTAINING TO A–E SERVICES.—Section 717(d) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3894) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: ", and such contract was awarded under the qualification-based selection procedures required by title IX of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 541 et seq.)".

15 USC 644 note.

(h) PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES.—Restricted competitions pursuant to section 713(b) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3892) shall not be imposed with respect to the designated industry group of architectural and engineering services if the rate of small business participation exceeds 35 percent, until the improvements to the collection of data regarding prime contract awards (as required by subsection (g)) and the system for collecting data regarding other than prime contract awards (as required by subsection (d)) have been implemented, as determined by the Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy.

15 USC 644 note.

(i) TEST PLAN AND POLICY DIRECTION.—The Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy shall issue appropriate modifications to the test plan and policy direction issued pursuant to section 715 of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988, to conform to the amendments made by this section and section 201(a).

SEC. 203. AMENDMENTS TO THE DREDGING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

(a) MODIFICATION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION GOALS.—The first sentence of section 722(b) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3895) is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (3);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5) not less than 20 percent during fiscal year 1993, and each subsequent year during the term of the program, including not less than 5 percent of the dollar value of suitable contracts that shall be reserved for emerging small business concerns.".

(b) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN CONTRACTS.—Section 722(b) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3896) is further amended—

(1) by striking "total dollar value of contracts" and inserting "aggregate value of all suitable contracts"; and

(2) by striking the last sentence and inserting the following: "The total value of contracts to be performed exclusively through the use of so-called dustpan dredges or seagoing hopper dredges is deemed to be generally unsuitable for performance by small business concerns and is to be excluded in calculating whether the rates of small business participation specified in subsection (b) have been attained.".

(c) QUALIFIED SMALL BUSINESS COMPETITORS.—Section 722(c) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3896) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

"(2) Prior to making a determination to restrict a solicitation for the performance of a dredging contract for exclusive competition among 2 or more eligible small business concerns in accordance with section 19.5 of the Governmentwide Federal Procurement Regulation (48 C.F.R. 19.5, or any successor thereto), the contracting officer shall make a determination that each anticipated offeror

is a responsible source (as defined under section 4(7) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 403(7)) and has (or can demonstrate the capability to obtain) the specialized dredging equipment deemed necessary to perform the work to be required in accordance with the schedule to be specified in the solicitation.".

(d) CONTRACT AWARD PROCEDURES.—Section 722(c) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3896) is further amended—

(1) in the first sentence of paragraph (1), by striking "in paragraphs (2) and (3)" and inserting "in paragraphs (3) and (4)"; and

(2) in paragraph (4) (as redesignated by subsection (c)), by striking "attaining" and inserting "exceeding".

(e) REPORTS.—Section 722(f) of the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note, 102 Stat. 3896) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "September 30, 1992" and inserting "September 30, 1995"; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking "of the fiscal years 1989, 1990, and 1991" and inserting "fiscal year during the term of the program established under subsection (a)".

Subtitle B—Defense Economic Transition Assistance

SEC. 211. SECTION 7(a) LOAN PROGRAM.

Section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(21)(A) The Administration may make loans under the authority of this subsection—

"(i) to a small business concern that has been (or can reasonably be expected to be) detrimentally affected by—

"(I) the closure (or substantial reduction) of a Department of Defense installation; or

"(II) the termination (or substantial reduction) of a Department of Defense program on which such small business was a prime contractor or subcontractor (or supplier) at any tier; or

"(ii) to a qualified individual seeking to establish (or acquire) and operate a small business concern.

"(B) Recognizing that greater risk may be associated with a loan to a small business concern described in subparagraph (A)(i), any reasonable doubts concerning the firm's proposed business plan for transition to nondefense-related markets shall be resolved in favor of the loan applicant when making any determination regarding the sound value of the proposed loan in accordance with paragraph (6).

"(C) Loans pursuant to this paragraph shall be authorized in such amounts as provided in advance in appropriation Acts for the purposes of loans under this paragraph.

"(D) For purposes of this paragraph a qualified individual is—

"(i) a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, honorably discharged from active duty involuntarily or pursuant to a program providing bonuses or other inducements to encourage voluntary separation or early retirement;

"(ii) a civilian employee of the Department of Defense involuntarily separated from Federal service or retired pursuant to a program offering inducements to encourage early retirement; or

"(iii) an employee of a prime contractor, subcontractor, or supplier at any tier of a Department of Defense program whose employment is involuntarily terminated (or voluntarily terminated pursuant to a program offering inducements to encourage voluntary separation or early retirement) due to the termination (or substantial reduction) of a Department of Defense program.".

SEC. 212. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER PROGRAM.

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

(1) by striking subparagraph (D);

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (E), (F), and (G) as subparagraphs (D), (E), and (F), respectively; and

(3) by inserting before subparagraph (H) the following new subparagraph:

"(G) assisting small businesses to develop and implement strategic business plans to timely and effectively respond to the planned closure (or reduction) of a Department of Defense facility within the community, or actual or projected reductions in such firms' business base due to the actual or projected termination (or reduction) of a Department of Defense program or a contract in support of such program—

"(i) by developing broad economic assessments of the adverse impacts of—

"(I) the closure (or reduction) of the Department of Defense facility on the small business concerns providing goods or services to such facility or to the military and civilian personnel currently stationed or working at such facility; and

"(II) the termination (or reduction) of a Department of Defense program (or contracts under such program) on the small business concerns participating in such program as a prime contractor, subcontractor or supplier at any tier;

"(ii) by developing, in conjunction with appropriate Federal, State, and local governmental entities and other private sector organizations, the parameters of a transition adjustment program adaptable to the needs of individual small business concerns;

"(iii) by conducting appropriate programs to inform the affected small business community regarding the anticipated adverse impacts identified under clause (i) and the economic adjustment assistance available to such firms; and

"(iv) by assisting small business concerns to develop and implement an individualized transition business plan.".

Subtitle C—Small Business Administration Management

SEC. 221. DISADVANTAGED SMALL BUSINESS STATUS DECISIONS. 15 USC 636 note.

(a) PUBLICATION OF DECISIONS.—A decision issued pursuant to section 7(j)(11)(F)(vii) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(j)(11)(F)(vii)) shall—

(1) be made available to the protestor, the protested party, the contracting officer (if not the protestor), and all other parties to the proceeding, and published in full text; and

(2) include findings of fact and conclusions of law, with specific reasons supporting such findings or conclusions, upon each material issue of fact and law of decisional significance regarding the disposition of the protest.

(b) PRECEDENTIAL VALUE OF PRIOR DECISIONS.—A decision issued under section 7(j)(11)(F)(vii) of the Small Business Act that is issued prior to the date of enactment of this Act shall not have value as precedent in deciding any subsequent protest until such time as the decision is published in full text.

SEC. 222. ESTABLISHMENT OF SIZE STANDARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(a)) is amended by striking "In addition" and all that follows through the end period and by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(2) In addition to the criteria specified in paragraph (1), the Administrator may specify detailed definitions or standards (by number of employees or dollar volume of business) by which a business concern is to be recognized as a small business concern for the purposes of this Act or any other Act. Unless specifically authorized by statute, the Secretary of a department or the head of a Federal agency may not prescribe for the use of such department or agency a size standard for categorizing a business concern as a small business concern, unless such proposed size standard—

"(A) is being proposed after an opportunity for public notice and comment;

"(B) provides for determining, over a period of not less than 3 years—

"(i) the size of a manufacturing concern on the basis of the number of its employees during that period; and

"(ii) the size of a concern providing services on basis of the average gross receipts of the concern during that period; and

"(C) is approved by the Administrator.

"(3) When establishing or approving any size standard pursuant to paragraph (2), the Administrator shall ensure that the size standard varies from industry to industry to the extent necessary to reflect the differing characteristics of the various industries and consider other factors deemed to be relevant by the Administrator.".

(b) REGULATIONS.— 15 USC 632 note.

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue proposed regulations to implement the amendments made by subsection (a). Final regulations shall be issued not later than 270 days after such date of enactment.

(2) LISTING OF ADDITIONAL SIZE STANDARDS.—The regulations required by paragraph (1) shall include a listing of all small business size standards prescribed by statute or by individual Federal departments and agencies, identifying the programs or purposes to which such size standards apply.

SEC. 223. MANAGEMENT OF SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER PROGRAM.

(a) Section 21(a)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648) is amended by adding the following at the end thereof:

"(A) Small business development centers are authorized to form an association to pursue matters of common concern. If more than a majority of the small business development centers which are operating pursuant to agreements with the Administration are members of such an association, the Administration is authorized and directed to recognize the existence and activities of such an association and to consult with it and develop documents (i) announcing the annual scope of activities pursuant to this section, (ii) requesting proposals to deliver assistance as provided in this section and (iii) governing the general operations and administration of the Small Business Development Center Program, specifically including the development of regulations and a uniform negotiated cooperative agreement for use on an annual basis when entering into individual negotiated agreements with small business development centers.

"(B) Provisions governing audits, cost principles and administrative requirements for Federal grants, contracts and cooperative agreements which are included in uniform requirements of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars shall be incorporated by reference and shall not be set forth in summary or other form in regulations.".

Regulations.
15 USC 648 note.

(b) Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall submit to the Committees on Small Business and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, proposed regulations for the Small Business Development Center Program authorized by section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648). Such proposed regulations shall not be published in the Federal Register.

New York.
15 USC 631 note.

SEC. 224. NATIONAL SEMINAR ON SMALL BUSINESS EXPORTS.

(a) SEMINAR.—The Administration shall conduct a National Seminar on Small Business Exports in Buffalo, New York, in connection with the World University Games Buffalo '93 during July, 1993, in order to develop recommendations designed to stimulate exports from small companies. The Seminar shall build upon the information collected by the Administration through previously conducted regional small business trade conferences and the prior conference in the State of Washington.

(b) ASSISTANCE BY EXPERTS.—For the purpose of ascertaining facts and developing policy recommendations concerning the expansion of United States exports from small companies, the Seminar shall bring together individuals who are experts in the fields of international trade and small business development and representatives of small businesses, associations, the labor community, academic institutions, and Federal, State and local governments.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING UTILITY OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.—The Seminar shall specifically consider the utility of, and make recommendations regarding, a subsequent International Conference on Small Business and Trade that would—

(1) help establish linkages between United States small business owners and small business owners in foreign countries;

(2) enable United States small business owners to learn how others organize themselves for exporting; and

(3) foster greater consideration of small business concerns in the GATT and other international trade agreements to which the United States is a signatory.

SEC. 225. CO-SPONSORED TRAINING.

Section 7(b) of the Small Business Computer Security and Education Act of 1984 (15 U.S.C. 633 note) is amended by striking "October 1, 1992" in the first sentence and inserting in lieu thereof "October 1, 1994".

SEC. 226. VIABILITY OF SECONDARY MARKETS. 15 USC 634 note.

The Administrator of the Small Business Administration is authorized and directed to take such actions in the awarding of contracts as is deemed necessary to assure the continued long-term viability of the secondary markets in loans, debentures or other securities guaranteed by the Administration.

Subtitle D—Technical Amendments

SEC. 231. COMMISSION ON MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT.

(a) TERMINATION.—Section 505(f) of the Business Opportunity Development Reform Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 636 note; 102 Stat. 3887) is amended by inserting before the period at the end "or September 30, 1992, whichever is later".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply as if it were included in the Business Opportunity Development Reform Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 636 note). 15 USC 636 note.

SEC. 232. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 8.—Section 8 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 837) is amended— 15 USC 637.

(1) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in subsection (a)(1)(C), by striking the period and inserting "; and";

(3) in subsection (a)(6)(C)(i), by striking "to (A)" and inserting "to subparagraph (A)";

(4) in subsection (a)(6)(C)(ii), by striking "7(j)(10)(H)" and inserting "7(j)(10)(G)";

(5) in subsection (a)(12)(E), by striking "to (D)" and inserting "to subparagraph (D)";

(6) by redesignating subsections (c) through (i) as subsections (d) through (j), respectively;

(7) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

"(c) [Reserved].";

(8) in subsection (d)(4)(F)(ii) (as redesignated by paragraph (6) of this subsection), by striking "impositon" and inserting "imposition"; and

(9) in subsection (h)(2) (as redesignated by paragraph (6) of this subsection), by striking "Administration" and inserting "Administrative".

(b) AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 15.—Section 15 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(2)(B), by striking "Blindmade" and inserting "Blind-made";

(2) in paragraphs (3) and (5) of subsection (k), by striking the semicolon and inserting a comma;

(3) in subsection (l)(6), by adding a period at the end; and

(4) in subsection (m)(2)(B), by striking "requirement" and inserting "requirements".

TITLE III—STUDIES AND RESOLUTIONS

Subtitle A—Access to Surety Bonding

Small Business Access to Surety Bonding Survey Act of 1992. 15 USC 694b note.

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the "Small Business Access to Surety Bonding Survey Act of 1992".

SEC. 302. SURVEY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General shall conduct a comprehensive survey of business firms, including using a questionnaire described in subsection (b), to obtain data on the experiences of such firms, and especially the experiences of small business concerns, in obtaining surety bonds from corporate surety firms.

(b) CONTENT OF SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE.—In addition to such other questions as the Comptroller General deems appropriate to ensure a comprehensive survey under subsection (a), the questionnaire used by the Comptroller General shall include questions to obtain information from a surveyed business on—

(1) the frequency with which the firm was requested to provide a corporate surety bond in fiscal year 1992;

(2) whether the frequency with which the firm was requested to provide a corporate surety bond increased or decreased in fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992 and the reason for any increase or decrease, if known;

(3) the frequency with which the firm provided a corporate surety bond in fiscal year 1992;

(4) whether the frequency with which the firm provided a corporate surety bond increased or decreased in fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992 and the reason for any increase or decrease, if known;

(5) the average size of corporate surety bonds provided by the firm in fiscal year 1992;

(6) whether the average size of the corporate surety bonds provided by the firm increased or decreased during fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992 and the reason for any increase or decrease, if known;

(7) the dollar amount of the largest corporate surety bond provided by the firm in fiscal year 1992;

(8) whether the dollar amount of the largest corporate surety bond provided by the firm increased or decreased in fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992 and the reason for any increase or decrease, if known;

(9) the dollar amount of work performed by the firm by type of construction owner, including the Federal Government, State and local governments, other public entities, and private entities, in each of fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992;

(10) the dollar amount of such work bonded by a corporate surety company for the firm by type of construction owner, including construction owners referred to in paragraph (9), for each of fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992;

(11) whether the firm purchased its corporate surety bonds through an insurance agent or directly from a surety company;

(12) the means used by the firm to identify its source for the purchase of corporate surety bonds;

(13) the average corporate surety bond premium (expressed as a percentage of contract amount) paid by the firm in fiscal year 1992;

(14) any increase or decrease in the average corporate surety bond premium (expressed as a percentage of the contract amount) paid by the firm in fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992 and the reason for any increase or decrease, if known;

(15) whether or not the underwriting requirements (including state of accounts receivable, financial procedures, need for personal indemnification, and requirements for collateral) changed in fiscal year 1990, 1991, or 1992;

(16) the nature of any changes in underwriting requirements experienced by the firm in fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992 and the reason for any such changes, if known;

(17) whether or not the source of surety bonds (a surety agent or company) provided reasons for such changes in underwriting requirements and whether these reasons were provided orally or in writing;

(18) whether or not the bonding capacity (total dollar amount and number of bonds) for the firm changed in fiscal year 1990, 1991, or 1992;

(19) whether or not the source of surety bonds (a surety agent or company) provided reasons for any changes in bonding capacity and whether these reasons were provided orally or in writing;

(20) the services provided and advice given by the firm's source of corporate surety bonds in fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992;

(21) whether or not the firm obtained a corporate surety bond with the assistance of a Federal program (such as the surety bond guarantee program of the Small Business Administration and the bonding assistance program of the Department of Transportation) or a State or local program in fiscal year 1990, 1991, or 1992;

(22) whether or not the firm used any alternative to corporate surety bonds (such as individual surety bonds, letters of credit, certificates of deposit, and government securities) in fiscal year 1990, 1991, or 1992;

(23) if the firm has not provided any corporate surety bonds in fiscal year 1990, 1991, or 1992, the reasons the firm has not done so;

(24) the number of times the firm has had an application for a corporate surety bond denied in fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992, and the reason for any such denial, if known;

(25) whether or not the proposed source for the corporate surety bond (a surety agent or company) provided the reasons for its denial of that application and whether that explanation was provided orally or in writing;

(26) the length of time the firm has been in business;

(27) the number of years of construction experience of the firm's officers (if a corporation), partners, or owner (if a sole proprietorship), and those responsible for managing the execution of the firm's construction operations, and how many years of such experience is in the type of construction that provides the majority of the firm's annual sales volume;

(28) the approximate annual sales volume of the firm in fiscal years 1990, 1991, and 1992;

(29) the net worth (total assets less total liabilities) of the firm at the close of the firm's most recent fiscal year;

(30) the working capital (current assets less current liabilities) of the firm at the close of the firm's most recent fiscal year;

(31) the average age of the firm's accounts receivable (the average number of days required to collect payments due);

(32) whether the firm made a profit in fiscal year 1990, 1991, or 1992;

(33) the form and frequency of such firm's financial statements (statements audited and certified by an independent certified public accountant, statements reviewed by such a certified public accountant, compilation financial statements, or other forms of financial statements), and whether such statements were furnished with applications for bonding, if requested; and

(34) the 4-digit standard industrial classification code in which the firm performs the majority of its work.

(c) FIRMS TO BE SURVEYED.—The Comptroller General shall develop a statistically valid sample of business firms from the most recent list of construction firms maintained by the Dun and Bradstreet Company (identified as the "DUN Market Identifier" file) for which data regarding sales is available.

SEC. 303. REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General, in consultation with the Small Business Administration, shall conduct an assessment of the data obtained in the survey conducted pursuant to section 302 and submit to the Committees on Small Business of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the results of such assessment.

(b) CONTENTS OF THE REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The report required by subsection (a) shall contain—

(A) a summary of responses of business firms to the survey conducted pursuant to section 302; and

(B) a description of any trends found by the Comptroller General in such responses.

(2) INFORMATION ON SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.—In presenting summaries of responses and descriptions of trends pursuant to paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall provide specific information on the responses and trends of small business concerns, small business concerns owned and controlled by

women, and small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

SEC. 304. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this subtitle—

(1) the term "fiscal year" means the fiscal year of the business firm being surveyed;

(2) the term "small business concern" has the same meaning as in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632);

(3) the term "small business concern owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals" has the same meaning as in section 8(d)(3)(C) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(3)(C)) (as redesignated by section 232(a)(6) of this Act); and

(4) the term "small business concern owned and controlled by women" has the same meaning as in section 127(d) of the Small Business Administration Reauthorization and Amendment Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 637 note).

Subtitle B—Small Business Loan Secondary Market Study

SEC. 311. SECONDARY MARKET FOR LOANS TO SMALL BUSINESSES. 15 USC 634 note.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, and the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in consultation with the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, shall conduct a study of the potential benefits of, and legal, regulatory, and market-based barriers to, developing a secondary market for loans to small businesses. The study shall include consideration of—

(1) market perceptions and the reasons for the slow development of a secondary market for loans to small businesses;

(2) any means to standardize loan documents and underwriting for loans to small businesses relating to retail and office space;

(3) the probable effects of the development of a secondary market for loans to small businesses on financial institutions and intermediaries, borrowers, lenders, real estate markets, and the credit markets generally;

(4) legal and regulatory barriers that may be impeding the development of a secondary market for loans to small businesses; and

(5) the risks posed by investments in loans to small businesses.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, and the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission shall transmit to the Congress a report on the results of the study under paragraph (1). The report shall include recommendations for legislation to facilitate the development of a secondary market for loans to small businesses.

Subtitle C—Contract Bundling Study

15 USC 644 note.

SEC. 321. CONTRACT BUNDLING STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration, acting through the Associate Administrator for Procurement Assistance, shall conduct a study regarding the impact of the practice known as "contract bundling" on the participation of small business concerns in the Federal procurement process.

(b) PURPOSE.—In addition to such other matters as the Associate Administrator for Procurement Assistance deems appropriate to assure the conduct of a comprehensive study and the development of practical recommendations, the study required by subsection (a) shall—

(1) identify the benefits and adverse effects of contract bundling to the procuring agencies;

(2) identify the benefits and adverse effects of contract bundling on small business concerns;

(3) examine the adequacy of the policy direction to agency procurement officials regarding the bundling of contract requirements;

(4) examine the extent to which agencies have been combining their requirements for the procurement of goods and services (including construction) into solicitations requiring an offeror to be able to perform increasingly larger contracts covering multiple and diverse elements of performance;

(5) consider the appropriateness of the explanatory statements submitted by the procuring agencies pursuant to section 15(a) of the Small Business Act regarding bundling of contract requirements; and

(6) determine whether procurement center representatives, small business specialists, or other agency procurement officials can, under existing guidance and authority, have the necessary policy direction and effective authority to make an independent assessment regarding a proposed bundling of contract requirements.

(c) PARTICIPATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In conducting the study described in subsection (b), the Associate Administrator for Procurement Assistance shall provide for participation by representatives of—

(A) the Office of the Chief Counsel for Advocacy;

(B) the Office of Federal Procurement Policy; and

(C) the 10 Federal departments or agencies having the greatest dollar value of procurement awards during fiscal year 1991.

(2) ADDITIONAL CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the Associate Administrator for Procurement Assistance shall consult with representatives of organizations representing small business government contractors and such other public and private entities as may be appropriate.

Federal Register, publication.

(d) SCHEDULE.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Associate Administrator for Procurement Assistance shall publish in the Federal Register a plan for the study required by this section. The study shall be completed not later than March 31, 1993.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than May 15, 1993, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall submit a report to

the Committees on Small Business of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The report shall contain the results of the study required by subsection (a), together with recommendations for legislative and regulatory changes to maintain small business participation in the Federal procurement process, as the Administrator deems appropriate.

(f) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term "contracting bundling" or "bundling of contract requirements" refers to the practice of consolidating into a single large contract solicitation multiple procurement requirements that were previously solicited and awarded as separate smaller contracts, generally resulting in a contract opportunity unsuitable for award to a small business concern due to the diversity and size of the elements of performance specified and the aggregate dollar value of the anticipated award.

Subtitle D—Resolution Regarding Small Business Access to Capital

SEC. 331. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) small business concerns remain a thriving and vital part of the economy, accounting for the majority of new jobs, new products, and new services created in the United States;

(2) adequate access to either debt or equity capital is a critical component of small business formation, expansion, and success;

(3) small business concerns, which represent higher degrees of risk in financial markets than do large businesses, are experiencing increased difficulties in obtaining credit;

(4) minority-owned business enterprises have found extraordinary difficulties in obtaining credit; and

(5) demand for credit under the loan guarantee program contained in section 7(a) of the Small Business Act is insufficient to meet current demands.

(b) SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) financial institutions should expand their efforts to provide credit to small business concerns, with special emphasis on minority-owned small business concerns;

(2) legislation and regulations considered by the Congress should be carefully examined to ensure that small business concerns are not negatively impacted; and

(3) legislation and regulations that enhance the viability of small business concerns, including changes in tax and health care policy, should be given a priority for passage by the Congress.

TITLE IV—SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT ACT AMENDMENTS

Small Business Equity Enhancement Act of 1992. Securities. 15 USC 661 note.

SECTION 401. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Small Business Equity Enhancement Act of 1992".

SEC. 402. LEVERAGE (MATCHING FUNDS) FORMULA.

Section 303 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 683) is amended—

(1) by inserting after the word "debentures" in the first and sixth sentences of subsection (b) the following: "or participating securities";

(2) by striking paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (b) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"(1) The total amount of debentures and participating securities that may be guaranteed by the Administration and outstanding from a company licensed under section 301(c) of this Act shall not exceed 300 per centum of the private capital of such company: *Provided,* That nothing in this paragraph shall require any such company that on March 31, 1993, has outstanding debentures in excess of 300 per centum of its private capital to prepay such excess: *And provided further,* That any such company may apply for an additional debenture guarantee or participating security guarantee with the proceeds to be used solely to pay the amount due on such maturing debenture, but the maturity of the new debenture or security shall be not later than September 30, 2002.

"(2) After March 31, 1993, the maximum amount of outstanding leverage made available to a company licensed under section 301(c) of this Act shall be determined by the amount of such company's private capital—

"(A) if the company has private capital of not more than $15,000,000, the total amount of leverage shall not exceed 300 per centum of private capital;

"(B) if the company has private capital of more than $15,000,000 but not more than $30,000,000, the total amount of leverage shall not exceed $45,000,000 plus 200 per centum of the amount of private capital over $15,000,000; and

"(C) if the company has private capital of more than $30,000,000, the total amount of leverage shall not exceed $75,000,000 plus 100 per centum of the amount of private capital over $30,000,000 but not to exceed an additional $15,000,000.

"(3) Subject to the foregoing dollar and percentage limits, a company licensed under section 301(c) of this Act may issue and have outstanding both guaranteed debentures and participating securities: *Provided,* That the total amount of participating securities outstanding shall not exceed 200 per centum of private capital.

"(4) In no event shall the aggregate amount of outstanding leverage of any such company or companies which are commonly controlled as determined by the Administration exceed $90,000,000, unless the Administration determines on a case by case basis to permit a higher amount for companies under common control and imposes such additional terms and conditions as it determines appropriate to minimize the risk of loss to the Administration in the event of default.";

(3) by inserting before the period at the end of subsection (c)(6) the following: ", except as provided in paragraph (7)"; and

(4) by adding the following at the end of subsection (c):

"(7) The Administration may guarantee debentures or may guarantee the payment of the redemption price and prioritized payments on participating securities under subsection (g) from a company operating under section 301(d) of this Act in amounts above $35,000,000 but not to exceed the maximum amounts specified in section 303(b) subject to the following:

"(A) The interest rate on debentures and the rate of prioritized payments on participating securities shall be that specified in subsection 303(g)(2) without any reductions.

"(B) Any outstanding assistance under paragraphs (1) to (6) of this subsection shall be subtracted from such company's eligibility under section 303(b)(2)(A).".

SEC. 403. PARTICIPATING SECURITIES.

Section 303 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 683) is further amended by adding the following new subsections:

"(g) In order to encourage small business investment companies to provide equity capital to small businesses, the Administration is authorized to guarantee the payment of the redemption price and prioritized payments on participating securities issued by such companies which are licensed pursuant to section 301(c) of this Act, and a trust or a pool acting on behalf of the Administration is authorized to purchase such securities. Such guarantees and purchases shall be made on such terms and conditions as the Administration shall establish by regulation. For purposes of this section, (A) the term 'participating securities' includes preferred stock, a preferred limited partnership interest or a similar instrument, including debentures under the terms of which interest is payable only to the extent of earnings and (B) the term 'prioritized payments' includes dividends on stock, interest on qualifying debentures, or priority returns on preferred limited partnership interests which are paid only to the extent of earnings. Participating securities guaranteed under this subsection shall be subject to the following restrictions and limitations, in addition to such other restrictions and limitations as the Administration may determine: Regulations.

"(1) Participating securities shall be redeemed not later than 15 years after their date of issuance for an amount equal to 100 per centum of the original issue price plus the amount of any accrued prioritized payment: *Provided,* That if, at the time the securities are redeemed, whether as scheduled or in advance, the issuing company (A) has not paid all accrued prioritized payments in full as provided in paragraph (2) below and (B) has not sold or otherwise disposed of all investments subject to profit distributions pursuant to paragraph (11), the company's obligation to pay accrued and unpaid prioritized payments shall continue and payment shall be made from the realized gain, if any, on the disposition of such investments, but if on disposition there is no realized gain, the obligation to pay accrued and unpaid prioritized payments shall be extinguished: *Provided further,* That in the interim, the company shall not make any in-kind distributions of such investments unless it pays to the Administration such sums, up to the amount of the unrealized appreciation on such investments, as may be necessary to pay in full the accrued prioritized payments.

"(2) Prioritized payments on participating securities shall be preferred and cumulative and payable out of the retained earnings available for distribution, as defined by the Administration, of the issuing company at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury taking into consideration the current average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the average maturities on such securities, adjusted to the nearest one-eighth of 1 per centum, plus, at the time the guarantee is issued, such additional charge, if any, toward covering other costs of the program as the Administration may determine to be consistent with its purposes, but not to exceed 2 per centum.

"(3) In the event of liquidation of the company, participating securities shall be senior in priority for all purposes to all other equity interests in the issuing company, whenever created.

"(4) Any company issuing a participating security under this subsection shall commit to invest or shall invest and maintain an amount equal to the outstanding face value of such security solely in equity capital. As used in this subsection, 'equity capital' means common or preferred stock or a similar instrument, including subordinated debt with equity features which is not amortized and which provides for interest payments contingent upon and limited to the extent of earnings.

"(5) The only debt (other than leverage obtained in accordance with this title) which any company issuing a participating security under this subsection may have outstanding shall be temporary debt in amounts limited to not more than 50 per centum of private capital.

"(6) The Administration may permit the proceeds of a participating security to be used to pay the principal amount due on outstanding debentures guaranteed by the Administration, if (A) the company has outstanding equity capital invested in an amount equal to the amount of the debentures being refinanced and (B) the Administration receives profit participation on such terms and conditions as it may determine, but not to exceed the per centums specified in paragraph (11).

"(7) For purposes of computing profit participation under paragraph (11), except as otherwise determined by the Administration, the management expenses of any company which issues participating securities shall not be greater than 2.5 per centum per annum of the combined capital of the company, plus $125,000 if the company's combined capital is less than $20,000,000. For purposes of this paragraph, (A) the term 'combined capital' means the aggregate amount of private capital and outstanding leverage and (B) the term 'management expenses' includes salaries, office expenses, travel, business development, office and equipment rental, bookkeeping and the development, investigation and monitoring of investments, but does not include the cost of services provided by specialized outside consultants, outside lawyers and outside auditors, who perform services not generally expected of a venture capital company nor does such term include the cost of services provided by any affiliate of the company which are not part of the normal process of making and monitoring venture capital investments.

"(8) Notwithstanding paragraph (9), if a company is operating as a limited partnership or as a subchapter s corporation or an equivalent pass-through entity for tax purposes and if there are no accumulated and unpaid prioritized payments, the company may make annual distributions to the partners or shareholders in amounts not greater than each partner's or shareholder's maximum tax liability. For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'maximum tax liability' means the amount of income allocated to each partner or shareholder (including an allocation to the Administration as if it were a taxpayer) for Federal income tax purposes in the income tax return filed or to be filed by the company with respect to the fiscal year of the company immediately preceding such distribution, multiplied by the highest combined marginal Federal and State income tax rates for corporations or individuals, whichever is higher, on each type of income included in such return. For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'State income tax' means the income tax of the State where the company's principal place of business is located.

"(9) After making any distributions as provided in paragraph (8), a company with participating securities outstanding may distribute the balance of income to its investors, specifically including the Administration, in the per centums specified in paragraph (11), if there are no accumulated and unpaid prioritized payments and if all amounts due the Administration pursuant to paragraph (11) have been paid in full, subject to the following conditions:

"(A) As of the date of the proposed distribution, if the amount of leverage outstanding is more than 200 per centum of the amount of private capital, any amounts distributed shall be made to private investors and to the Administration in the ratio of leverage to private capital.

"(B) As of the date of the proposed distribution, if the amount of leverage outstanding is more than 100 per centum but not more than 200 per centum of the amount of private capital, 50 per centum of any amounts distributed shall be made to the Administration and 50 per centum shall be made to the private investors.

"(C) If the amount of leverage outstanding is 100 per centum, or less, of the amount of private capital, the ratio shall be that for distribution of profits as provided in paragraph (11).

"(D) Any amounts received by the Administration under subparagraph (A) or (B) shall be applied first as profit participation as provided in paragraph (11) and any remainder shall be applied as a prepayment of the principal amount of the participating securities or debentures.

"(10) After making any distributions pursuant to paragraph (8), a company with participating securities outstanding may return capital to its investors, specifically including the Administration, if there are no accumulated and unpaid prioritized payments and if all amounts due the Administration pursuant to paragraph (11) have been paid in full. Any distributions under this paragraph shall be made to private investors and to the Administration in the ratio of private capital to leverage as of the date of the proposed distribution: *Provided,* That if the amount of leverage outstanding is less than 50

per centum of the amount of private capital or $10,000,000, whichever is less, no distribution shall be required to be made to the Administration unless the Administration determines, on a case by case basis, to require distributions to the Administration to reduce the amount of outstanding leverage to an amount less than $10,000,000.

"(11)(A) A company which issues participating securities shall agree to allocate to the Administration a share of its profits determined by the relationship of its private capital to the amount of participating securities guaranteed by the Administration in accordance with the following:

"(i) If the total amount of participating securities is 100 per centum of private capital or less, the company shall allocate to the Administration a per centum share computed as follows: the amount of participating securities divided by private capital times 9 per centum.

"(ii) If the total amount of participating securities is more than 100 per centum but not greater than 200 per centum of private capital, the company shall allocate to the Administration a per centum share computed as follows:

"(I) 9 per centum, plus

"(II) 3 per centum of the amount of participating securities minus private capital divided by private capital.

"(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of this paragraph—

"(i) in no event shall the total per centum required by this paragraph exceed 12 per centum, unless required pursuant to the provisions of (ii) below,

"(ii) if, on the date the participating securities are marketed, the interest rate on Treasury bonds with a maturity of 10 years is a rate other than 8 per centum, the Administration shall adjust the rate specified in paragraph (A) above, either higher or lower, by the same per centum by which the Treasury bond rate is higher or lower than 8 per centum, and

"(iii) this paragraph shall not be construed to create any ownership interest of the Administration in the company.

"(12) A company may elect to make an in-kind distribution of securities only if such securities are publicly traded and marketable. The company shall deposit the Administration's share of such securities for disposition with a trustee designated by the Administration or, at its option and with the agreement of the company, the Administration may direct the company to retain the Administration's share. If the company retains the Administration's share, it shall sell the Administration's share and promptly remit the proceeds to the Administration. As used in this paragraph, the term 'trustee' means a person who is knowledgeable about and proficient in the marketing of thinly traded securities.

"(h) The computation of amounts due the Administration under participating securities shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

"(1) The formula in subsection (g)(11) shall be computed annually and the Administration shall receive distributions

of its profit participation at the same time as other investors in the company.

"(2) The formula shall not be modified due to an increase in the private capital unless the increase is provided for in a proposed business plan submitted to and approved by the Administration.

"(3) After distributions have been made, the Administration's share of such distributions shall not be recomputed or reduced.

"(4) If the company prepays or repays the participating securities, the Administration shall receive the requisite participation upon the distribution of profits due to any investments held by the company on the date of the repayment or prepayment.

"(5) If a company is licensed on or before March 31, 1993, it may elect to exclude from profit participation all investments held on that date and in such case the Administration shall determine the amount of the future expenses attributable to such prior investment: *Provided,* That if the company issues participating securities to refinance debentures as authorized in subsection (g)(6), it may not elect to exclude profits on existing investments under this paragraph.".

SEC. 404. POOLING.

Section 321 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 687l) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 321. ISSUANCE AND GUARANTEE OF TRUST CERTIFICATES.

"(a) The Administration is authorized to issue trust certificates representing ownership of all or a fractional part of debentures issued by small business investment companies, including companies operating under the authority of section 301(d), and guaranteed by the Administration under this Act, or participating securities which are issued by such companies and purchased and guaranteed pursuant to section 303(g): *Provided,* That such trust certificates shall be based on and backed by a trust or pool approved by the Administration and composed solely of guaranteed debentures or guaranteed participating securities.

"(b) The Administration is authorized, upon such terms and conditions as are deemed appropriate, to guarantee the timely payment of the principal of and interest on trust certificates issued by the Administration or its agent for purposes of this section. Such guarantee shall be limited to the extent of principal and interest on the guaranteed debentures or the redemption price of and priority payments on the participating securities, which compose the trust or pool. In the event that a debenture in such trust or pool is prepaid, or participating securities are redeemed, either voluntarily or involuntarily, or in the event of default of a debenture or voluntary or involuntary redemption of a participating security, the guarantee of timely payment of principal and interest on the trust certificates shall be reduced in proportion to the amount of principal and interest such prepaid debenture or redeemed participating security and priority payments represent in the trust or pool. Interest on prepaid or defaulted debentures, or priority payments on participating securities, shall accrue and be guaranteed by the Administration only through the date of payment on the guarantee. During the term of the trust certificate, it may be called for redemption due to prepayment or default of all debentures or redemption, whether voluntary or involuntary, of all participating securities residing in the pool.

"(c) The full faith and credit of the United States is pledged to the payment of all amounts which may be required to be paid under any guarantee of such trust certificates issued by the Administration or its agent pursuant to this section.

"(d) The Administration shall not collect a fee for any guarantee under this section: *Provided,* That nothing herein shall preclude any agent of the Administration from collecting a fee approved by the Administration for the functions described in subsection (f)(2) of this section.

"(e)(1) In the event the Administration pays a claim under a guarantee issued under this section, it shall be subrogated fully to the rights satisfied by such payment.

"(2) No State or local law, and no Federal law, shall preclude or limit the exercise by the Administration of its ownership rights in the debentures or participating securities residing in a trust or pool against which trust certificates are issued.

"(f)(1) The Administration shall provide for a central registration of all trust certificates sold pursuant to this section. Such central registration shall include with respect to each sale—

"(A) identification of each small business investment company;

"(B) the interest rate or prioritized payment rate paid by the small business investment company;

"(C) commissions, fees, or discounts paid to brokers and dealers in trust certificates;

"(D) identification of each purchaser of the trust certificate;

"(E) the price paid by the purchaser for the trust certificate;

"(F) the interest rate on the trust certificate;

"(G) the fee of any agent for carrying out the functions described in paragraph (2); and

"(H) such other information as the Administration deems appropriate.

"(2) The Administrator shall contract with an agent or agents to carry out on behalf of the Administration the pooling and the central registration functions of this section including, notwithstanding any other provision of law, maintenance on behalf of and under the direction of the Administration, such commercial bank accounts as may be necessary to facilitate trusts or pools backed by debentures or participating securities guaranteed under this Act, and the issuance of trust certificates to facilitate such poolings. Such agent or agents shall provide a fidelity bond or insurance in such amounts as the Administration determines to be necessary to fully protect the interests of the Government.

"(3) Prior to any sale, the Administrator shall require the seller to disclose to a purchaser of a trust certificate issued pursuant to this section, information on the terms, conditions, and yield of such instrument.

"(4) The Administrator is authorized to regulate brokers and dealers in trust certificates sold pursuant to this section.".

SEC. 405. AUTHORIZATIONS.

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

(1) by striking in subsection (g)(3) "stock and $221,000,000 in guarantees of debentures" and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "securities, $221,000,000 in guarantees of debentures, of which $40,000,000 is authorized in guarantees of debentures

from companies operating pursuant to section 301(d) of such Act, and $100,000,000 in guarantees of participating securities";

(2) by striking in subsection (i)(3) "stock and $232,000,000 in guarantees of debentures" and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "securities, $232,000,000 in guarantees of debentures, of which $42,000,000 is authorized in guarantees of debentures from companies operating pursuant to section 301(d) of such Act, and $250,000,000 in guarantees of participating securities"; and

(3) by adding the following new subsections at the end thereof:

"(k) The following program levels are authorized for fiscal year 1995:

"(1) For the programs authorized by title III of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, the Administration is authorized to make $23,000,000 in purchases of preferred securities, $244,000,000 in guarantees of debentures, of which $44,000,000 is authorized in guarantees of debentures from companies operating pursuant to section 301(d) of such Act, and $400,000,000 in guarantees of participating securities.

"(l) There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administration for fiscal year 1995 such sums as may be necessary to carry out subsection (k), including salaries and expenses of the Administration.

"(m) The following program levels are authorized for fiscal year 1996:

"(1) For the programs authorized by title III of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, the Administration is authorized to make $24,000,000 in purchases of preferred securities, $256,000,000 in guarantees of debentures, of which $46,000,000 is authorized in guarantees of debentures from companies operating pursuant to section 301(d) of such Act, and $550,000,000 in guarantees of participating securities.

"(n) There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administration for fiscal year 1996 such sums as may be necessary to carry out subsection (m), including salaries and expenses of the Administration.

"(o) The following program levels are authorized for fiscal year 1997:

"(1) For the programs authorized by title III of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, the Administration is authorized to make $25,000,000 in purchases of preferred securities, $268,000,000 in guarantees of debentures, of which $48,000,000 is authorized in guarantees of debentures from companies operating pursuant to section 301(d) of such Act, and $700,000,000 in guarantees of participating securities.

"(p) There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administration for fiscal year 1997 such sums as may be necessary to carry out subsection (o), including salaries and expenses of the Administration.".

SEC. 406. SAFETY AND SOUNDNESS.

(a) FINANCIAL VIABILITY DETERMINED.—Section 302 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 682) is amended by adding the following at the end of subsection (a): "The Administration shall also determine the ability of the company, both prior to licensing and prior to approving any request for financing, to

make periodic payments on any debt of the company which is interest bearing and shall take into consideration the income which the company anticipates on its contemplated investments, the experience of the company's owners and managers, the history of the company as an entity, if any, and the company's financial resources.".

(b) VALUATION GUIDELINES AND RESPONSIBILITY.—Section 310 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 687b) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(d) Each small business investment company shall adopt written guidelines for determination of the value of investments made by such company. The board of directors of corporations and the general partners of partnerships shall have the sole responsibility for making a good faith determination of the fair market value of the investments made by such company. Determinations shall be made and reported to the Administration not less than semiannually or at more frequent intervals as the Administration determines appropriate: *Provided,* That any company which does not have outstanding financial assistance under the provisions of this title shall be required to make such determinations and reports to the Administration annually, unless the Administration, in its discretion, determines otherwise.".

SEC. 407. EXAMINATIONS.

(a) EXAMINATION BY INVESTMENT DIVISION.—Section 310 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 687b) is amended by striking from subsection (b) "Administration by examiners selected or approved by" and by inserting in lieu thereof the following: "Investment Division of".

Effective date. 15 USC 687b note.

(b) TRANSFER OF RESOURCES.—Effective October 1, 1992, the personnel, assets, liabilities, contracts, property, records, and unexpended balances of appropriations, authorizations, and other funds employed, held, used, arising from, available or to be made available, which are related to the examination function provided by section 310 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 shall be transferred by the Inspector General of the Small Business Administration to the Investment Division of the Small Business Administration.

SEC. 408. NON-FINANCED SBICS.

(a) INVESTMENT LIMITATION.—Section 306(a) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 686(a)) is amended to read as follows:

"(a) If any small business investment company has obtained financing from the Administration and such financing remains outstanding, the aggregate amount of obligations and securities acquired and for which commitments may be issued by such company under the provisions of this title for any single enterprise shall not exceed 20 per centum of the private capital of such company, without the approval of the Administration.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 310 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 687b) is amended by inserting before the semicolon at the end of subsection (c)(5) the following: ", if such restriction is applicable".

(c) TEMPORARY INVESTMENT OF FUNDS.—Section 308(b) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 687(b)) is amended by inserting after "Such companies" in the third sentence the following: "with outstanding financings".

(d) REGULATORY REVIEW.—Not later than 90 days after the effective date of this Act, the Small Business Administration shall complete a review of those regulations intended to provide for the safety and soundness of those small business investment companies which obtain financing from the Administration under the provisions of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958. The Administration is directed to exempt from such regulations, or to separately regulate, those companies which do not obtain financing from the Administration. 15 USC 681 note.

(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Administration, within 180 days after the effective date of this Act, shall report on actions taken pursuant to section 8(d) of this Act to the Committees on Small Business of the Senate and the House of Representatives, including the rationale for its actions. 15 USC 681 note.

SEC. 409. MINIMUM CAPITAL.

Section 302 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 682) is amended by striking from subsection (a) "1979 pursuant to sections 301(c) and (d) of this Act shall be not less than $500,000" and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "1992 pursuant to section 301(c) of this title shall be not less than $2,500,000 and pursuant to section 301(d) of this title shall be not less than $1,500,000".

SEC. 410. DEFINITIONS.

Section 103 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 662) is amended as follows:

(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (7);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (8) and inserting in lieu thereof a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(9) notwithstanding any other provision of law, the term 'private capital' means the private paid-in capital and paid-in surplus of a corporate licensee, or the private partnership capital of an unincorporate licensee, inclusive of (A) any funds invested in the licensee by a public or private pension fund, (B) any funds invested in the licensee by State or local government entities, to the extent that such investment does not exceed 33 percent of a licensee's total private capital and otherwise meets criteria established by the Administration, and (C) unfunded commitments from institutional investors that meet criteria established by the Administration, but it excludes any funds which are borrowed by the licensee from any source or which are obtained or derived, directly or indirectly, from any Federal source, including the Administration: *Provided,* That no unfunded commitment from an institutional investor may be used for the purpose of meeting the minimum amount of private capital required by this Act or as the basis for the Administration to issue obligations to provide financing; and

"(10) the term 'leverage' includes debentures purchased or guaranteed by the Administration, participating securities purchased or guaranteed by the Administration, or preferred securities issued by companies licensed under section 301(d) of this Act and which have been purchased by the Administration.".

SEC. 411. INTEREST RATE CEILING.

Section 305 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 685) is amended by striking the period at the end of subsection (c) and by inserting in lieu thereof the following: ": *Provided,* That the Administration also shall permit those companies which have issued debentures pursuant to this Act to charge a maximum rate of interest based upon the coupon rate of interest on the outstanding debentures, determined on an annual basis, plus such other expenses of the company as may be approved by the Administration.".

SEC. 412. PREFERRED PARTNERSHIP INTERESTS.

Section 303(c) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 683(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking from the first sentence the word "preferred";

(2) by inserting after the second sentence the following: "As used in this subsection, the term 'securities' means shares of nonvoting stock or other corporate securities or limited partnership interests which have similar characteristics."; and

(3) by striking from paragraph (1) "shares of nonvoting stock (or other corporate securities having similar characteristics)" and inserting in lieu thereof "such securities".

SEC. 413. INDIRECT FUNDS FROM STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

Section 303(e) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 683(e)) is amended—

(1) by inserting after the word "company" the following: "licensed under section 301(d) and notwithstanding section 103(9)"; and

(2) by striking "prior" and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting "to November 21, 1989: *Provided,* That such companies may include in private capital for any purpose funds indirectly obtained from State or local governments. As used in this subsection, the term 'capital indirectly obtained' includes income generated by a State financing authority or similar State institution or agency or from the investment of State or local money or amounts originally provided to nonprofit institutions or corporations which such institutions or corporations, in their discretion, determine to invest in a company licensed under section 301(d).".

SEC. 414. SBIC APPROVALS.

Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended by adding the following at the end of subsection (a)(2): "Subject to approval in appropriations Acts, amounts authorized for preferred securities, debentures or participating securities under title III of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 may be obligated in one fiscal year and disbursed or guaranteed in the following fiscal year.".

Federal Register, publication. Regulations. 15 USC 661 note.

SEC. 415. IMPLEMENTATION.

Notwithstanding any law, rule, regulation or administrative moratorium, except as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, the Small Business Administration shall—

(1) within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, publish in the Federal Register proposed rules and regulations implementing this Act and the amendments made by this Act; and

(2) within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, publish in the Federal Register final rules and regulations implementing this Act, and enter such contracts as are necessary to implement this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

SEC. 416. BUY AMERICA.

Section 102 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 1661) is amended by adding at the end the following: "It is the intention of the Congress that in the award of financial assistance under this Act, when practicable, priority be accorded to small business concerns which lease or purchase equipment and supplies which are produced in the United States and that small business concerns receiving such assistance be encouraged to continue to lease or purchase such equipment and supplies.". 15 USC 661.

SEC. 417. STUDIES AND REPORTS.

(a) SBA ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 308(g) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (12 U.S.C. 687(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph: 15 USC 687.

"(3) In its annual report for the year ending on December 31, 1993, and in each succeeding annual report made pursuant to section 10(a) of the Small Business Act, the Administration shall include a full and detailed description or account relating to—

"(A) the number of small business investment companies the Administration licensed, the number of licensees that have been placed in liquidation, and the number of licensees that have surrendered their licenses in the previous year, identifying the amount of government leverage each has received and the type of leverage instruments each has used;

"(B) the amount of government leverage that each licensee received in the previous year and the types of leverage instruments each licensee used;

"(C) for each type of financing instrument, the sizes, geographic locations, and other characteristics of the small business investment companies using them, including the extent to which the investment companies have used the leverage from each instrument to make small business loans, equity investments, or both; and

"(D) the frequency with which each type of investment instrument has been used in the current year and a comparison of the current year with previous years.".

(b) REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall transmit to the Committees on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report that reviews the Small Business Investment Company program (established under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958) for the 3-year period following the date of enactment of this Act, with respect to each item listed in section 308(g)(3) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended by subsection (a). 15 USC 681 note.

SEC. 418. NO EFFECT ON SECURITIES LAWS. 15 USC 661 note.

Nothing in this Act (and no amendment made by this Act) shall be construed to affect the applicability of the securities laws, as that term is defined in section 3(a)(47) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or any of the rules and regulations thereunder, or

otherwise supersede or limit the jurisdiction of the Securities and Exchange Commission or the authority at any time conferred under the securities laws.

Approved September 4, 1992.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 4111:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 102-492 (Comm. on Small Business).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 138 (1992):
May 14, considered and passed House.
Aug. 6, considered and passed Senate, amended.
Aug. 11, House concurred in Senate amendments with an amendment.
Aug. 12, Senate concurred in House amendment.
WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 28 (1992):
Sept. 4, Presidential statement.