PUBLIC LAW 93-386—AUG. 23, 1974

AN ACT

To clarify the authority of the Small Business Administration, to increase the authority of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the “Small Business Amendments of 1974”.

Sec. 2. (a) The Small Business Act is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) of section 2 as subsection (c) and by adding after subsection (a) of that section the following new subsection:

“(b) The assistance programs authorized by sections 7(i) and 7(j) of this Act are to be utilized to assist in the establishment, preservation, and strengthening of small business concerns and improve the managerial skills employed in such enterprises, with special attention to small business concerns (1) located in urban or rural areas with high proportions of unemployed or low-income individuals; or (2) owned by low-income individuals; and to mobilize for these objectives private as well as public managerial skills and resources;”;

(2) by striking out paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 4(c), and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

“(c) (1) There are hereby established in the Treasury the following revolving funds: (A) a disaster loan fund which shall be available for financing functions performed under sections 7(b)(1), 7(b)(2), 7(b)(4), 7(b)(5), 7(b)(6), 7(b)(7), 7(b)(8), 7(c)(2), and 7(g) of this Act, including administrative expenses in connection with such functions; and (B) a business loan and investment fund which shall be available for financing functions performed under sections 7(a), 7(b)(3), 7(e), 7(h), 7(i), and 8(a) of this Act, and titles III and V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, including administrative expenses in connection with such functions.

“(2) All repayments of loans and debentures, payments of interest and other receipts arising out of transactions heretofore or hereafter entered into by the Administration (A) pursuant to sections 7(b)(1), 7(b)(2), 7(b)(4), 7(b)(5), 7(b)(6), 7(b)(7), 7(b)(8), and 7(c)(2) of this Act shall be paid into a disaster loan fund; and (B) pursuant to sections 7(a), 7(b)(3), 7(e), 7(h), 7(i), and 8(a) of this Act, and titles III and V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, shall be paid into the business loan and investment fund.”;

(3) by striking out paragraph (4) of section 4(c), and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

“(4) The total amount of loans, guarantees, and other obligations or commitments, heretofore or hereafter entered into by the Administration, which are outstanding at any one time (A) under sections 7(a), 7(b)(3), 7(e), 7(h), 7(i), and 8(a) of this Act, shall not exceed $6,000,000,000; (B) under title III of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, shall not exceed $725,000,000; (C) under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, shall not exceed $525,000,000; and (D) under section 7(i) of this Act, shall not exceed $450,000,000.”;

(4) by adding at the end of section 7 the following three new subsections:

“(i) (1) The Administration also is empowered to make, participate (on an immediate basis) in, or guarantee loans, repayable in not more than fifteen years, to any small business concern, or to any qualified person seeking to establish such a concern, when it determines that
such loans will further the policies established in section 2(b) of this Act, with particular emphasis on the preservation or establishment of small business concerns located in urban or rural areas with high proportions of unemployed or low-income individuals, or owned by low-income individuals: Provided, however, That no such loans shall be made, participated in, or guaranteed if the total of such Federal assistance to a single borrower outstanding at any one time would exceed $50,000. The Administration may defer payments on the principal of such loans for a grace period and use other methods as it deems necessary and appropriate to assure the successful establishment and operation of such concern. The Administration may, in its discretion, as a condition of such financial assistance, require that the borrower take steps to improve his management skills by participating in a management training program approved by the Administration: Provided, however, That any management training program so approved must be of sufficient scope and duration to provide reasonable opportunity for the individuals served to develop entrepreneurial and managerial self-sufficiency.

"(2) The Administration shall encourage, as far as possible, the participation of the private business community in the program of assistance to such concerns, and shall seek to stimulate new private lending activities to such concerns through the use of the loan guarantees, participations in loans, and pooling arrangements authorized by this subsection.

"(3) To insure an equitable distribution between urban and rural areas for loans between $3,500 and $50,000 made under this subsection, the Administration is authorized to use the agencies and agreements and delegations developed under title III of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, as amended, as it shall determine necessary.

"(4) The Administration shall provide for the continuing evaluation of programs under this subsection, including full information on the location, income characteristics, and types of businesses and individuals assisted, and on new private lending activity stimulated, and the results of such evaluation together with recommendations shall be included in the report required by section 10(a) of this Act.

"(5) Loans made pursuant to this subsection (including immediate participation in and guarantees of such loans) shall have such terms and conditions as the Administration shall determine, subject to the following limitations:

"(A) there is reasonable assurance of repayment of the loan;

"(B) the financial assistance is not otherwise available on reasonable terms from private sources or other Federal, State, or local programs;

"(C) the amount of the loan, together with other funds available, is adequate to assure completion of the project or achievement of the purposes for which the loan is made;

"(D) the loan bears interest at a rate not less than (i) a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, taking into consideration the average market yield on outstanding Treasury obligations of comparable maturity, plus (ii) such additional charge, if any, toward covering other costs of the program as the Administration may determine to be consistent with its purposes: Provided, however, That the rate of interest charged on loans made in redevelopment areas designated under the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3108 et seq.) shall not exceed the rate currently applicable to new loans made under section 201 of that Act (42 U.S.C. 3142); and
Urban area small business allocation.

Relocations, funds, restriction.

Technical or management assistance projects, financial assistance.

Ante, p. 742.

"(E) fees not in excess of amounts necessary to cover administrative expenses and probable losses may be required on loan guarantees.

"(6) The Administration shall take such steps as may be necessary to insure that, in any fiscal year, at least 50 per centum of the amounts loaned or guaranteed pursuant to this subsection are allotted to small business concerns located in urban areas identified by the Administration as having high concentrations of unemployed or low-income individuals or to small business concerns owned by low-income individuals. The Administration shall define the meaning of low income as it applies to owners of small business concerns eligible to be assisted under this subsection.

"(7) No financial assistance shall be extended pursuant to this subsection where the Administration determines that the assistance will be used in relocating establishments from one area to another if such relocation would result in an increase in unemployment in the area of original location.

"(j)(1) The Administration is authorized to provide financial assistance to public or private organizations to pay all or part of the cost of projects designed to provide technical or management assistance to individuals or enterprises eligible for assistance under subsection 7(i) of this Act, with special attention to small business located in urban areas of high concentration of unemployed or low-income individuals or owned by low-income individuals.

"(2) Financial assistance under this subsection may be provided for projects, including without limitation—

"(A) planning and research, including feasibility studies and market research;

"(B) the identification and development of new business opportunities;

"(C) the furnishing of centralized services with regard to public services and Government programs including programs authorized under subsection 7(i);

"(D) the establishment and strengthening of business service agencies, including trade associations and cooperatives;

"(E) the encouragement of the placement of subcontracts by major business with small business concerns located in urban areas of high concentration of unemployed or low-income individuals or owned by low-income individuals, including the provision of incentives and assistance to such major businesses so that they will aid in the training and upgrading of potential subcontractors or other small business concerns; and

"(F) the furnishing of business counseling, management training, and legal and other related services, with special emphasis on the development of management training programs using the resources of the business community, including the development of management training opportunities in existing businesses, and with emphasis in all cases upon providing management training of sufficient scope and duration to develop entrepreneurial and managerial self-sufficiency on the part of the individuals served.

"(3) The Administration shall give preference to projects which promote the ownership, participation in ownership, or management of small business concerns by residents of urban areas of high concentration of unemployed or low-income individuals, and to projects which are planned and carried out with the participation of local businessmen.

"(4) The financial assistance authorized by this subsection includes assistance advanced by grant, agreement, or contract, but does not include the procurement of plant or equipment, or goods or services.
“(5) The Administration is authorized to make payments under grants and contracts entered into under this subsection in lump sum or installments, and in advance or by way of reimbursement, and in the case of grants, with necessary adjustments on account of overpayments or underpayments.

“(6) To the extent feasible, services under this subsection shall be provided in a location which is easily accessible to the individuals and small business concerns served.

“(7) The Administration shall provide for an independent and continuing evaluation of programs under this subsection, including full information on, and analysis of, the character and impact of managerial assistance provided, the location, income characteristics, and types of businesses and individuals assisted, and the extent to which private resources and skills have been involved in these programs. Such evaluation together with any recommendations deemed advisable by the Administration shall be included in the report required by section 10(a) of this Act.

“(8) The Administration shall take such steps as may be necessary and appropriate, in coordination and cooperation with the heads of other Federal departments and agencies, so that contracts, subcontracts, and deposits made by the Federal Government or in connection with programs aided with Federal funds are placed in such a way as to further the purposes of this subsection and of subsection 7(i) of this Act. The Administration shall provide for the continuing evaluation of programs under this subsection and the results of such evaluation together with recommendations shall be included in the report required by section 10(a) of this Act.

“(k) In carrying out its functions under subsections 7(i) and 7(j) of this Act, the Administration is authorized—

“(1) to utilize, with their consent, the services and facilities of Federal agencies without reimbursement, and, with the consent of any State or political subdivision of a State, accept and utilize the services and facilities of such State or subdivision without reimbursement;

“(2) to accept, in the name of the Administration, and employ or dispose of in furtherance of the purposes of this Act, any money or property, real, personal, or mixed, tangible, or intangible, received by gift, devise, bequest, or otherwise;

“(3) to accept voluntary and uncompensated services, notwithstanding the provisions of section 3679(b) of the Revised Statutes (31 U.S.C. 655(b)); and

“(4) to employ experts and consultants or organizations thereof as authorized by section 15 of the Administrative Expenses Act of 1946 (5 U.S.C. 55a), except that no individual may be employed under the authority of this subsection for more than one hundred days in any fiscal year; to compensate individuals so employed at rates not in excess of $100 per diem, including traveltime; and to allow them, while away from their homes or regular places of business, travel expenses (including per diem in lieu of subsistence) as authorized by section 5 of such Act (5 U.S.C. 73b-2) for persons in the Government service employed intermittently, while so employed: Provided, however, That contracts for such employment may be renewed annually.”

(b) Title IV of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 is hereby repealed; and all references to such title in the remainder of that Act are repealed.

Sec. 3. The Small Business Act is further amended—

(1) by amending section 5(b) by striking out “and” following paragraph (8), by striking out the period at the end of para-
(9) and inserting in lieu thereof a semicolon and by adding at the end of paragraph (9) the following new paragraphs:

"(10) upon purchase by the Administration of any deferred participation entered into under section 7 of this Act, continue to charge a rate of interest not to exceed that initially charged by the participating institution on the amount so purchased for the remaining term of the indebtedness; and

"(11) make such investigations as he deems necessary to determine whether a recipient of or participant in any assistance under this Act or any other person has engaged or is about to engage in any acts or practices which constitute or will constitute a violation of any provision of this Act, or of any rule or regulation under this Act, or of any order issued under this Act. The Administration shall permit any person to file with it a statement in writing, under oath or otherwise as the Administration shall determine, as to all the facts and circumstances concerning the matter to be investigated. For the purpose of any investigation, the Administration is empowered to administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any books, papers, and documents which are relevant to the inquiry. Such attendance of witnesses and the production of any such records may be required from any place in the United States. In case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to, any person, including a recipient or participant, the Administration may invoke the aid of any court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which such investigation or proceeding is carried on, or where such person resides or carries on business, in requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books, papers, and documents; and such court may issue an order requiring such person to appear before the Administration, there to produce records, if so ordered, or to give testimony touching the matter under investigation. Any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof. All process in any such case may be served in the judicial district wherein such person is an inhabitant or wherever he may be found."; and

(2) by striking out the third sentence in paragraph (2) of section 7(h) and inserting in lieu thereof: "The Administration's share of any loan made under this subsection shall bear interest at the rate of 3 per centum per annum."

Sec. 4. Section 10 of the Small Business Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(g) The Administration shall transmit, not later than December 31 of each year, to the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Banking and Currency of the House of Representatives a sealed report with respect to—

"(1) complaints alleging illegal conduct by employees of the Administration which were received or acted upon by the Administration during the preceding fiscal year; and

"(2) investigations undertaken by the Administration, including external and internal audits and security and investigation reports."

Sec. 5. Section 18 of the Small Business Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: "If loan applications are being refused or loans denied by such other department or agency responsible for such work or activity due to administrative withholding from obligation or withholding from apportionment, or due to
administratively declared moratorium, then, for purposes of this section, no duplication shall be deemed to have occurred."

SEC. 6. (a) The Small Business Investment Act of 1958 is amended—
(1) by striking out in the table of contents in section 101 all references to title IV and section numbers therein and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"TITLE IV—GUARANTEES"

"PART A—LEASE GUARANTEES"

"Sec. 401. Authority of the Administration."
"Sec. 402. Powers."
"Sec. 403. Fund."

"PART B—SURETY BOND GUARANTEES"

"Sec. 410. Definitions."
"Sec. 411. Authority of the Administration."
"Sec. 412. Fund."

(2) by striking out section 403 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"FUND"

"Sec. 403. There is hereby created within the Treasury a separate fund for guarantees which shall be available to the Administrator without fiscal year limitations as a revolving fund for the purposes of this part. There are authorized to be appropriated to the fund from time to time such amounts not to exceed $10,000,000 to provide capital for the fund. All amounts received by the Administrator, including any moneys, property, or assets derived by him from his operations in connection with this part, shall be deposited in the fund. All expenses and payments pursuant to operations of the Administrator under this part shall be paid from the fund. From time to time, and at least at the close of each fiscal year, the Administrator shall pay from the fund into Treasury as miscellaneous receipts interest at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury on the cumulative amount of appropriations available as capital to the fund, less the average undisbursed cash balance in the fund during the year. The rate of such interest shall be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, and shall not be less than a rate determined by taking into consideration the average market yield during the month preceding each fiscal year on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the average maturity of guarantees from the fund. Moneys in the fund not needed for the payment of current operating expenses or for the payment of claims arising under this part may be invested in bonds or other obligations of, or bonds or other obligations guaranteed as to principal and interest by, the United States; except that moneys provided as capital for the fund shall not be so invested."

(3) by striking out "$500,000" in section 411 and inserting in lieu thereof "$1,000,000"; and

(4) by adding after section 411 the following new section:

"FUND"

"Sec. 412. There is hereby created within the Treasury a separate fund for guarantees which shall be available to the Administrator without fiscal year limitation as a revolving fund for the purposes of this part. There are authorized to be appropriated to the fund from time to time such amounts not to exceed $35,000,000 to provide capital for the fund. All amounts received by the Administrator, including
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Interest rate. 15 USC 636.

Allocated funds. 15 USC 633.

SBA Administrators.

Transfer of funds.

Interest rate.

any moneys, property, or assets derived by him from his operations in connection with this part, shall be deposited in the fund. All expenses and payments pursuant to operations of the Administrator under this part shall be paid from the fund. From time to time, and at least at the close of each fiscal year, the Administrator shall pay from the fund into Treasury as miscellaneous receipts interest at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury on the cumulative amount of appropriations available as capital to the fund, less the average undisbursed cash balance in the fund during the year. The rate of such interest shall be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, and shall not be less than a rate determined by taking into consideration the average market yield during the month preceding each fiscal year on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the average maturity of guarantees from the fund. Moneys in the fund not needed for the payment of current operating expenses or for the payment of claims arising under this part may be invested in bonds or other obligations of, or bonds or other obligations guaranteed as to principal and interest by, the United States; except that moneys provided as capital for the fund shall not be so invested.”

(b) Unexpected balances of capital previously transferred to the fund pursuant to section 405 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 694), as in effect prior to the effective date of this Act, shall be allocated, together with related assets and liabilities, to the funds established by paragraphs (2) and (4) of subsection (a) of this section in such amounts as the Administrator shall determine. In addition, the Administrator is authorized to transfer to the fund established by paragraph (4) of subsection (a) of this section not to exceed $25,000,000 from the fund established under section 4(c) (1) (B) of the Small Business Act: Provided, That section 4(c) (6) and the last sentence of section 4(c) (5) shall not apply to any amounts so transferred.

Sec. 7. Section 4(b) of the Small Business Act is amended—
(1) by striking out “three” in the third sentence and inserting in lieu thereof “four”; and
(2) by inserting after the third sentence the following new sentence: “One of the Associate Administrators shall be designated at the time of his appointment as the Associate Administrator for Minority Small Business and shall be responsible to the Administrator for the formulation of policy relating to the Administration’s programs which provide assistance to minority small business concerns and in the review of the Administration’s execution of such programs in light of such policy.”

Sec. 8. Sections 7(a) (4) (B) and 7(a) (5) (B) of the Small Business Act are each amended to read as follows: “the rate of interest for the Administration’s share of any such loan shall be the average annual interest rate on all interest-bearing obligations of the United States then forming a part of the public debt as computed at the end of the fiscal year next preceding the date of the loan and adjusted to the nearest one-eighth of 1 per centum plus one-quarter of 1 per centum per annum; and”.

Sec. 9. (a) Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act is amended by striking out the period at the end of paragraph (7) and inserting in lieu thereof “; and” and by adding immediately after paragraph (7) the following new paragraph:
“(8) to make such loans (either directly or in cooperation with banks or other lending institutions through agreements to participate on an immediate or deferred basis) as the Administration may determine to be necessary or appropriate to assist, or refinance
the existing indebtedness of, any small business concern seriously and adversely affected by a shortage of fuel, electrical energy, or energy-producing resources, or by a shortage of raw or processed materials resulting from such shortages, if the Administration determines that such concern has suffered or is likely to suffer substantial economic injury without assistance under this paragraph."

(b) The first paragraph following the numbered paragraphs of section 7(b) of the Small Business Act is amended by striking out "or (7)", immediately following "(6)", and inserting in lieu thereof "(7), or (8)."

SEC. 10. Section 5 of the Small Business Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(e) The Administrator shall designate an individual within the Administration to be known as the Chief Counsel for Advocacy and to perform the following duties:

"(1) serve as a focal point for the receipt of complaints, criticisms, and suggestions concerning the policies and activities of the Administration and any other Federal agency which affects small businesses;

"(2) counsel small businesses on how to resolve questions and problems concerning the relationship of the small business to the Federal Government;

"(3) develop proposals for changes in the policies and activities of any agency of the Federal Government which will better fulfill the purposes of the Small Business Act and communicate such proposals to the appropriate Federal agencies;

"(4) represent the views and interests of small businesses before other Federal agencies whose policies and activities may affect small businesses; and

"(5) enlist the cooperation and assistance of public and private agencies, businesses, and other organizations in disseminating information about the programs and services provided by the Federal Government which are of benefit to small businesses, and information on how small businesses can participate in or make use of such programs and services."

SEC. 11. (a) The first sentence of section 411(c) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 is amended by inserting "administer this program on a prudent and economically justifiable basis and shall" immediately after "shall".

(b) Section 411(c) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "Within 30 days after the date of enactment of this sentence and at monthly intervals thereafter, the Administration shall publish the cost of the program to the Administration for the month immediately preceding the date of publication. The Administration shall conduct a study of the program in order to determine what must be done to make the program economically sound. Within one year after the date of enactment of this sentence, the Administration shall transmit a report to Congress containing a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the study, together with its recommendations for such legislative and administrative actions as it deems appropriate."

SEC. 12. Section 7(a) of the Small Business Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph: "(8) During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, the Administrator shall make direct loans under this subsection in an aggregate amount of not less than $400,000,000."
SEC. 13. The General Accounting Office is directed to conduct a full-scale audit of the Small Business Administration, including all field offices. This audit shall be submitted to the House and Senate no later than six months from the date of enactment of this Act.

Approved August 23, 1974.

Public Law 93-387

To authorize the establishment of a Council on Wage and Price Stability.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Council on Wage and Price Stability Act".

SEC. 2. (a) The President is authorized to establish, within the Executive Office of the President, a Council on Wage and Price Stability (hereinafter referred to as the "Council").

(b) The Council shall consist of eight members appointed by the President and four adviser-members also appointed by the President. The Chairman of the Council shall be designated by the President.

(c) There shall be a Director of the Council who shall be appointed by the President. The Director shall be compensated at the rate prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule by section 5315 of title 5, United States Code. The Director of the Council shall perform such functions as the President or the Chairman of the Council may prescribe. The Deputy Director shall perform such functions as the Chairman or the Director of the Council may prescribe.

(d) The Director of the Council may employ and fix the compensation of such officers and employees, including attorneys, as are necessary to perform the functions of the Council at rates not to exceed the highest rate for grade 15 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of title 5, United States Code. Except that the Director, with the approval of the Chairman may, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, relating to appointments in the competitive service, appoint and fix the compensation of not to exceed five positions at the rates provided for grades 16, 17, and 18 of such General Schedule, to carry out the functions of the Council.

(e) The Director of the Council may employ experts, expert witnesses, and consultants in accordance with the provisions of section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, and compensate them at rates not in excess of the maximum daily rate prescribed for grade 18 of the General Schedule under section 5322 of title 5, United States Code.

(f) The Director of the Council may, with their consent, utilize the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of Federal, State, regional, and local public agencies and instrumentalities, with or without reimbursement therefor, and may transfer funds made available pursuant to this Act to Federal, State, regional, and local public agencies and instrumentalities as reimbursement for utilization of such services, personnel, equipment, and facilities.

SEC. 3. (a) The Council shall—

(1) review and analyze industrial capacity, demand, supply, and the effect of economic concentration and anticompetitive practices, and supply in various sectors of the economy, working with the industrial groups concerned and appropriate governmental agencies to encourage price restraint;

(2) work with labor and management in the various sectors of the economy having special economic problems, as well as with appropriate government agencies, to improve the structure of