

Union Calendar No. 341

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4121

[Report No. 113–461]

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 28, 2014

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

MAY 21, 2014

Additional sponsor: Mr. MURPHY of Florida

MAY 21, 2014

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

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

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

A BILL

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

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

14 *“(A) IN GENERAL.—At the discretion”; and*
 15 *(2) by adding at the end the following:*

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

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

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

“(ii) *CONTINUITY OF SERVICES.*—A small business development center that provides counselors to an area described in clause (i) shall, to the maximum extent practicable, ensure continuity of services in any State in which the small business development center otherwise provides services.

“(iii) *ACCESS TO DISASTER RECOVERY FACILITIES.*—For purposes of this subparagraph, the Administrator shall, to the maximum extent practicable, permit the personnel of a small business development center to use any site or facility designated by the Administrator for use to provide disaster recovery assistance.”.

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

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

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

1 (2) *in clause (iv), by inserting “and” at the end;*
2 *and*
3 (3) *by adding at the end the following:*
4 “(v) *educating unemployed individuals on*
5 *entrepreneurship and working with such individ-*
6 *uals to start new businesses;”.*

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