

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4613

To authorize the Small Business Administrator to establish a grant program to empower encore entrepreneurs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 8, 2014

Mr. GARCIA (for himself and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To authorize the Small Business Administrator to establish a grant program to empower encore entrepreneurs.

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 “Empowering Encore
5 Entrepreneurs Act of 2014”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term “Administra-
9 tion” means the Small Business Administration.

1 (2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
2 trator” means the Administrator of the Small Busi-
3 ness Administration.

4 (3) ENCORE ENTREPRENEUR.—The term “en-
5 core entrepreneur” means an entrepreneur, business-
6 person, or owner of a small business concern—

7 (A) who is seeking to start a new small
8 business concern or expand an existing small
9 business concern; and

10 (B) who—

11 (i) is not less than 50 years of age; or

12 (ii) has not less than 20 years of ex-
13 perience in a workplace.

14 (4) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term
15 “nonprofit organization” means an organization that
16 is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Rev-
17 enue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation
18 under section 501(a) of such Code.

19 (5) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—The term
20 “small business concern” has the meaning given
21 that term under section 3 of the Small Business Act
22 (15 U.S.C. 632).

23 (6) SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CEN-
24 TER.—The term “small business development cen-
25 ter” means a small business development center de-

1 scribed in section 21 of the Small Business Act (15
2 U.S.C. 648).

3 (7) WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTER.—The term
4 “women’s business center” means a project carried
5 out under section 29 of the Small Business Act (15
6 U.S.C. 656).

7 **SEC. 3. EMPOWERING ENCORE ENTREPRENEURS PRO-**
8 **GRAM.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-
10 propriations, the Administrator shall establish a program
11 under which the Administrator may enter into contracts
12 or cooperative agreements with, or make grants to, non-
13 profit organizations, including small business development
14 centers, women’s business centers, chapters participating
15 in the SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1)(B)
16 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)), and
17 other resource partners of the Administration, and appro-
18 priate private sector organizations or entities to provide
19 technical assistance, mentoring, and other specialized
20 training activities for encore entrepreneurs.

21 (b) USES OF FUNDS.—Amounts made available
22 under subsection (a) may be used to provide technical as-
23 sistance, mentoring, and other specialized training activi-
24 ties including—

1 (1) online resources and training for encore en-
2 trepreneurs, including virtual networking and men-
3 toring tools;

4 (2) workshops, training, and business net-
5 working events for encore entrepreneurs; or

6 (3) programs to assist encore entrepreneurs in
7 remaining in or re-entering the labor market
8 through self-employment.

9 (c) APPLICATION.—An entity desiring a grant, con-
10 tract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (a) shall
11 submit to the Administrator an application that con-
12 tains—

13 (1) a description of the goals of the project to
14 be funded;

15 (2) a list of any partners that plan to partici-
16 pate in the project to be funded; and

17 (3) any other information the Administrator de-
18 termines is necessary.

19 (d) SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.—The Administrator
20 shall give special consideration to applications seeking
21 funding for programs for—

22 (1) members of the Armed Forces impacted by
23 base closures or realignment; or

24 (2) encore entrepreneurs unemployed for a pe-
25 riod of not less than 1 year.

1 (e) TERMINATION.—The program established in sub-
2 section (a) shall terminate on September 30, 2017.

3 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON BARRIERS FACED BY ENCORE ENTRE-**
4 **PRENEURS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
6 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in con-
7 sultation with other relevant Federal agencies, shall sub-
8 mit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepre-
9 neurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Busi-
10 ness of the House of Representatives a report that de-
11 scribes the barriers and obstacles faced by encore entre-
12 preneurs in starting new small business concerns or ex-
13 panding existing small business concerns.

14 (b) CONTENTS.—The report required under sub-
15 section (a) shall include—

16 (1) a review of the accessibility and availability
17 of credit and other forms of financing for encore en-
18 trepreneurs;

19 (2) a review of the availability of Federal con-
20 tracting opportunities for encore entrepreneurs;

21 (3) a review of the accessibility and availability
22 of counseling and mentoring programs for encore en-
23 trepreneurs; and

- 1 (4) policy recommendations, if any, for improv-
- 2 ing Federal assistance and coordination on programs
- 3 assisting encore entrepreneurs.

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