

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3291

To amend the Small Business Act to expand tax credit education and training for small businesses that engage in research and development, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Mr. ROBERTS (for himself and Mr. COONS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to expand tax credit education and training for small businesses that engage in research and development, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Support Small Busi-
5 ness R & D Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act—

1 (1) the terms “Administration” and “Adminis-
2 trator” mean the Small Business Administration
3 and the Administrator thereof, respectively;

4 (2) the term “Commissioner” means the Com-
5 missioner of Internal Revenue;

6 (3) the term “Export Assistance Center” has
7 the meaning given the term in section 22 of the
8 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649);

9 (4) the term “small business concern” has the
10 meaning given the term in section 3 of the Small
11 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632);

12 (5) the term “small business development cen-
13 ter” means a small business development center de-
14 scribed in section 21 of the Small Business Act (15
15 U.S.C. 648);

16 (6) the term “veterans’ business outreach cen-
17 ter” means a veterans’ business outreach center de-
18 scribed in section 32 of the Small Business Act (15
19 U.S.C. 657b); and

20 (7) the term “women’s business center” means
21 a women’s business center described in section 29 of
22 the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656).

23 **SEC. 3. SBA AND IRS PARTNERSHIPS.**

24 Beginning not later than 180 days after the date of
25 enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation

1 with the Commissioner, shall develop partnership agree-
2 ments that—

3 (1) provide for the development of—

4 (A) basic training, including in-person or
5 modular training sessions, relating to Federal
6 income tax credits that benefit small business
7 concerns and startups, especially credits for re-
8 search and experimentation; and

9 (B) informational materials relating to
10 those credits, including Internal Revenue Serv-
11 ice guidance documents;

12 (2) provide the basic training and informational
13 materials developed under paragraph (1)—

14 (A) through electronic resources, including
15 internet-based webinars; and

16 (B) at physical locations, including small
17 business development centers; and

18 (3) make those materials available to—

19 (A) business development programs admin-
20 istered by the Administration, including wom-
21 en's business centers, veterans' business out-
22 reach centers, and Export Assistance Centers,
23 and nonprofit research partners such as the
24 Service Corps of Retired Executives authorized

1 under section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business
2 Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)); and

3 (B) business development entities that
4 partner with programs administered by the Ad-
5 ministration, including universities, nonprofit
6 organizations, business incubators, and business
7 accelerators.

8 **SEC. 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**

9 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
10 of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation with the
11 Commissioner, shall submit to Congress a report describ-
12 ing how the Administration and the Internal Revenue
13 Service will—

14 (1) provide outreach and educational materials
15 to small business concerns, businesses of medium
16 size, and startups regarding section 41(h) of the In-
17 ternal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by section
18 121 of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes
19 Act of 2015; and

20 (2) help and encourage tax advisors to educate
21 those businesses about the important amendments
22 made by such Act to section 41 of such Code.

23 **SEC. 5. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.**

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

1 (1) in subparagraph (T), by striking “and” at
2 the end;

3 (2) in the first subparagraph designated as sub-
4 paragraph (U), by striking the period at the end and
5 inserting a semicolon;

6 (3) by redesignating the second subparagraph
7 designated as subparagraph (U) as subparagraph
8 (V);

9 (4) in subparagraph (V), as so redesignated, by
10 striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;
11 and

12 (5) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(W) in conjunction with the Internal Rev-
14 enue Service, providing informational materials,
15 education, and basic training—

16 “(i) to small business concerns relat-
17 ing to Federal income tax credits available
18 under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,
19 including—

20 “(I) credits available to busi-
21 nesses generally; and

22 “(II) credits available to small
23 business concerns and startups spe-
24 cifically, especially credits for research
25 and experimentation; and

1 “(ii) which may be delivered—
2 “(I) in person; or
3 “(II) through an internet
4 website.”.

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