

the author of this resolution, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for yielding, and I want to thank Ambassador WATSON for being one of the co-sponsors of this resolution, as well as all of those who join us today in making this collective statement to the Russians that there needs to be significant change, a reform, as to how they treat journalists.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 151, a resolution which calls upon Russian President Putin to seek outside law enforcement assistance in investigating the unsolved murders of dozens of Russian journalists over the past decade. We also encourage President Bush to formally offer President Putin law enforcement assistance from the United States.

Most observers think, Mr. Speaker, that some Russian officials have ordered or at least connived at these murders since most of the murdered journalists were investigating government corruption or involvement in human rights abuses. There is good reason to think that people in high places are still protecting the murderers.

Mr. Speaker, Russia holds the second worst position in the world in the number of journalists killed in the last 10 years, according to the International News Safety Institute. Reporters Without Borders counts 21 murdered journalists since March of 2000. This is a conservative number. It does not include the death under extremely suspicious circumstances of Ivan Safronov. It does include the murders of Paul Klebnikov and Anna Politkovskaya.

Mr. Speaker, any Member can do this, do a Google search, put in Russian journalists and murders, and you come up with one headline after another and one news story after another, usually in the Western press, of individuals being killed.

On June 15, there was a headline, "Russian Journalist Attacked in Moscow"; May of 2005, "Radio Journalist Badly Beaten Up"; April 21, "Russian Reporters Get Beaten Despite Wearing Special Jackets"; April 20, "Russian Activists Skeptical About Special Clothing For Journalists At Protests," they've got to wear special clothing, protective gear, to protect them from the police; April 9, "Television Journalist Found Dead"; April 9, again, "Critical Television Journalist Fears For His Life"; "Photo Journalist Beaten, Injured," on April 5; "Journalist Assaulted During Demonstration"; and the list goes on and on and on. Sorry, Mr. Speaker, but I see a pattern, and I think other Members do as well.

Let me just say a brief word about the three journalists that all three of us are mentioning today, also delineated in the resolution, whose deaths are sadly illustrative of so many others.

Paul Klebnikov was the editor of the Russian edition of Forbes Magazine. In July 2004, he was shot to death in Moscow while investigating suspect business dealings and corruption cases.

Anna Politkovskaya was an award-winning Russian journalist and human rights activist. She wrote many articles criticizing Russian atrocities committed during the war in Chechnya. In October 2006, she was shot to death in Moscow.

Ivan Savronov reported for the Russian newspaper, *Kommersant*. He wrote articles criticizing the failure of Russian military programs and was planning to report on potential Russian arms sales to Iran and Syria, state sponsors of terrorism. In March of 2007, he died under suspicious circumstances, as has been recounted by both of my colleagues. He fell five stories from a window in the stairwell of his Moscow apartment building. That was no accident, Mr. Speaker. That was a murder.

None of these cases have been solved, and very few of the less famous cases have been even looked at in a meaningful way.

Many of my colleagues in this House have other concerns about human rights problems in Russia. Xenophobic violence continues throughout the Russian Federation.

□ 1745

People continue to disappear in Chechnya. Local officials still discriminate against non-Orthodox religion, and the rule of just law remains shaky. Of course we all care about these. But I would point out to you that a situation in which journalists can be killed with impunity is a human rights problem of a different order.

It is a human rights problem that mitigates the resolution of other human rights problems. When journalists investigating a corruption case or a human rights abuse can be killed without their killers being brought to justice, or without a convincing effort being made to do so, this intimidates and has a chilling effect on other journalists. It marks off the borders of what others know they must not investigate.

As a result, the Russian press cannot properly fulfill its function of holding officials to account. This is exactly what the killers intend.

I raised this issue recently at a hearing of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe. I was glad when Daniel Freed, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, acknowledged the nature of the problem and said, "attacks on journalists, including the brutal and still unsolved murders of Paul Klebnikov and Anna Politkovskaya, among others, chill and deter the fourth estate."

Mr. Speaker, journalists fulfill an essential role in every society, and none more than those who uncover the theft of a country's assets by its elected officials or commit human rights outrages

in its name. Journalists who do this at risk of their lives fully deserve to be called heroes. Make no mistake about it. These journalists knew what they were risking as they wrote and wrote and used the power of the pen to expose.

We owe it to them to raise our voice to bring the killers to justice. Mr. Putin, sadly, does not seem to be making any serious efforts to do so. Unfortunately, we have the situation as it exists today in Russia.

Only when journalists can work without fear of intimidation and death will we be able to say that we have a truly democratic Russian Government. Russian journalists, they are the watch dogs, just as they are in this country and every other country.

Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the great conscience of Russia, said in his Nobel Peace Prize speech in 1970, "Any man who has once proclaimed violence as his method is inevitably forced to take the lie as his principle."

My resolution addresses the violence of the murder of independent journalists, and the lie in the claim that their murders have been seriously investigated. Solzhenitsyn said of Communist Russia, in our country, the lie has become not just a moral category, but a killer of the state. We have to ask ourselves and ask Mr. Putin, was this terrible statement also true of post-Communist Russia?

I think we send a clear message today, and I hope Members in a bipartisan way will support this.

Finally, I just want to thank Mark Milosch and Mark Gauge for their work in helping to put this resolution together.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 151, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RECOGNIZING OVER 200 YEARS OF SOVEREIGNTY OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 233) recognizing over 200 years of sovereignty of the Principality of Liechtenstein, and expressing support for efforts by the United States to continue to strengthen its relationship with that country, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 233

Whereas in 1806, Napoleon dissolved the Holy Roman Empire and Liechtenstein became a sovereign country;

Whereas Liechtenstein is nestled between Switzerland and Austria in the Upper Rhine valley of the European Alps, and is one of only two doubly landlocked countries in the world;

Whereas Liechtenstein has approximately 35,000 inhabitants, primarily Roman Catholics of German ethnicity;

Whereas Liechtenstein maintains a strong system of checks and balances between the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government;

Whereas Liechtenstein is a constitutional hereditary monarchy, whose powers were expanded through a popular referendum in March 2004 in which 64 percent of citizens approved a new constitution;

Whereas the parliament of Liechtenstein, the "Landtag", consists of 25 representatives elected for four year terms by proportional representation in two multi-seat constituencies, 10 representing the lowland area and 15 representing the highland area;

Whereas after World War II, on the basis of Liechtenstein's advantageous corporate tax laws and its Customs Union with Switzerland, an industrial upswing transformed Liechtenstein from a poor agricultural state to a modern society;

Whereas despite its small geographic area and limited natural resources, Liechtenstein has a prosperous, highly industrialized, free-enterprise economy with manufacturing as its leading economic sector, complemented by a robust financial sector;

Whereas Liechtenstein has been a member of the European Economic Area since May 1995 and is working to harmonize its economic policies more closely with the European Union;

Whereas Liechtenstein companies have a considerable manufacturing, sales and service presence in the United States, which has resulted in the creation of over 4500 jobs;

Whereas since 1999, the United States has been the most important export market for members of the Liechtenstein Chamber of Commerce and Industry, totaling \$521,000,000 in 2005;

Whereas the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty between the United States and the Principality of Liechtenstein, which entered into force in August of 2003, has resulted in an enhanced pursuit of criminals and terrorists;

Whereas in cooperation with the United States-led coalition after the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003, Liechtenstein froze assets of the former Iraqi regime, which resulted, among other things, in the return of a Falcon Jet 50 to the Iraqi people;

Whereas in collaboration with experts from the United States, the Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination at Princeton University seeks to raise awareness about issues pertaining to self-determination, self-governance and sovereignty through teaching, research and publications;

Whereas Liechtenstein abolished its military in 1868 and has exercised neutrality in its foreign affairs; and

Whereas Liechtenstein is an active member in international organizations such as the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes over 200 years of sovereignty of the Principality of Liechtenstein; and

(2) expresses its support for efforts by the United States to continue to strengthen its relationship with that country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I would first like to commend our distinguished colleague, Mr. CLIFF STEARNS of Florida, for introducing this important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today in strong support for this measure, which recognizes over 200 years of sovereignty of Liechtenstein and supports efforts by the United States to strengthen and further its relationships with this country. Liechtenstein may be small in size, but it is big in stature.

Just square 62 miles and nestled in the heart of Europe between Switzerland and Austria, it boasts 35,000 inhabitants, a strong democratic government and a constitutional hereditary monarchy. Its mountain landscapes have made it renowned as one of the most beautiful countries in Europe. The country punches well above its weight in its contributions to the global banking and financial sectors.

In just the last 60 years, it has developed from a mainly agrarian society to one of the most highly industrialized countries in the world. Indeed, its economic growth should serve as the model for the potential of all small countries. It has become a strong economic partner for the United States, which has been the largest export market for Liechtenstein over the past 10 years.

In addition, Liechtenstein-based companies have created over 4,500 jobs in the United States, mainly in manufacturing, sales and service. Given the celebration last year of Liechtenstein's 200 years of sovereignty, it is fitting that the House pass this resolution to pay tribute to the country's democratic tradition and prosperity.

Furthermore, in recognition of the important partnership between the United States and Liechtenstein in the areas of politics, economics and security, this resolution calls on the United States to strengthen and further its relationship with Liechtenstein.

I strongly support this resolution and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity to rise in support of House Resolution 233 authored by my good friend from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) that recognizes the more than 200 years of sovereignty of Liechtenstein. With the dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire 200 years ago, Liechtenstein became an independent state.

Since then, it has evolved as both a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary democracy. With a population of only about 34,000 people, we cannot expect Liechtenstein to take a leading role in international affairs, but it is an important ally in the cause of supporting and promoting democracy and, despite its small size, it has an importance for the United States that exceeds its geographical reach.

Exports are a major factor in the success of Liechtenstein's economy, and that outward-looking approach to commerce with the rest of the world has made it an important economic partner for the United States, creating almost 5,000 jobs here in the United States and achieving over half a billion dollars in exports to the American market in the year 2005 alone.

At home, in Europe, while it is not a member of the European Union, Liechtenstein is very closely aligned with the economic policies of that important organization and works to harmonize its economic policy very closely with it.

In the international arena, this small nation participates as a full partner in the United Nations, as well as in various critical international forums such as the World Trade Organization and the International Court of Justice.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote for this resolution by Mr. STEARNS of Florida, which expresses our support for a continued strengthening of our relationships with Liechtenstein.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the author of this resolution, Mr. STEARNS of Florida.

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. I thank my distinguished ranking member and my good friend from Florida and also the chairwoman of the subcommittee. I appreciate your words that you said earlier, and I think you succinctly outlined why this resolution is so important, and I compliment you on your speech.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, if you heard the word "Liechtenstein," and you didn't know anything about this resolution, and you were out on the street and you were talking to people,

and you said to them, what does the word Liechtenstein mean to you, there would probably be a number of things they would say. But I'll bet you one of the things they would say is it sounds like a word of integrity. It sounds like a word of independence. It sounds like a word of idealism. It sounds like a word of responsibility, and it sounds like a word of charm.

I have been there. It's a very charming country, it's a very responsible country, it's an independent country, and it's a country that represents idealism, much as the gentlelady from California has talked about when she mentioned that this country had been very responsible.

As mentioned, it's 34,000 people. It's a small nation, and accomplishes far more as mentioned earlier in social, political and financial influence than its small size would indicate. Nestled between Switzerland and Austria in the European Alps, Liechtenstein has established a stable and growing democracy, the type of government that we can all be proud of.

For over 200 years it has maintained a constitutional monarchy with a vibrant Parliament that employs a strong system, and this is what we believe in a republic system of government checks and balances. Along with myself and other colleagues, we have had the privilege of visiting Liechtenstein. On several occasions I was introduced to its fascinating history and the people and its commitment to freedom during the last centuries.

The Liechtenstein family of Austria was given the rights to the land in 1713, and the area gained the status of an independent principality of the Holy Roman Empire in 1719 under the name Liechtenstein. When, in 1806, Napoleon defeated the Holy Roman Empire, the conquered Emperor made Liechtenstein a sovereign country.

Now, my colleagues, unfortunately, the people of Liechtenstein were not granted the full rights and liberties that come with this sovereignty. As under Napoleon, the French occupied the country for the next several years. However, in 1815, within the new German Confederation, Liechtenstein regained its full independence.

This country has a long history of diplomacy and peaceful relationships with its neighbors. In 1868, after the Confederation dissolved, Liechtenstein disbanded its army of 80 men and declared its permanent neutrality which, amazingly, was respected throughout both World War I and World War II. That is a feat of diplomacy.

In 1989, Prince Hans Adam II succeeded his father to the throne. Then 10 years ago, Prince Adam accomplished a diplomatic feat by settling a 60-year long dispute with Russia over the Liechtenstein's family archives, which had been confiscated during the Soviet occupation of Vienna in 1945 and later moved all to Russia, more specifically, to Moscow.

After World War II, Liechtenstein became increasingly important as a fi-

nancial center. In 1978, this country became a member of the Council of Europe and joined the European Free Trade Association, the EFTA, in 1991. Liechtenstein has been a member of the European Economic Area since May of 1995, and is continuing to work to harmonize its economic policies more closely with the European Union every day.

One of Liechtenstein's most industrious resources is its people. It invested much effort in education, and this is something we can all be proud of and respect, they boast a literacy rate of 100 percent.

□ 1800

The United States and Liechtenstein have enjoyed a positive relationship for many, many years. In 2002, Liechtenstein and the U.S. signed a mutual legal assistance treaty which focused largely on jointly combating money laundering and other illegal banking activities. In addition, from the beginning of the global war on terror, this country took the initiative and has been a valuable and proactive partner in tracking down the finances of international terrorist groups.

Mr. Speaker, we are all aware of the dangerous world we live in today. In the years following the dreadful attack of September 11, we have been honored by the support and compassion of our friends around the world. We appreciate that.

While it is necessary and just to condemn countries for the threat they pose, I believe it is equally important and vital to honor countries for the support that they provide to us. Liechtenstein is one of those countries whose contribution should be recognized. For these reasons, I encourage my colleagues to take a closer look at the unique nation of Liechtenstein and join with me this afternoon in honoring this wonderful country. And my hat's off to them, and I urge passage of the resolution.

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, the tiny principality of Liechtenstein has survived and thrived as an independent and sovereign nation for over 200 years, ever since Napoleon dissolved the Holy Roman Empire in 1806. And I rise today in support of a resolution commemorating their independence and their friendship toward the United States.

Like my home state of Texas, Liechtenstein has worked hard to diversify its economy, keeping its important agricultural markets intact while embracing the industrial and financial services sectors, clearly for its immeasurable good.

Small in territory, Liechtenstein boasts an unemployment rate of only 1.3 percent and some of the lowest tax rates in Europe. Every day, the country's population swells to double its normal size, as citizens from the surrounding countries of Austria, Switzerland and Germany join the hardworking natives at work. And those that live and work in Liechtenstein enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world.

Liechtenstein is also, of course, a great friend to the United States and to democracy.

I have invited the Ambassador of Liechtenstein, Ms. Fristche, to visit my district and observe for herself the pride Texans have in their own country and of course, the unique balance of our own economy—the rice fields planted right up against the oil refineries.

I hope she takes me up on the offer.

That's just the way it is.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the sovereign nation of Liechtenstein is home to 34,000 people and is the size of Washington, DC. Yet this tiny nation accomplishes far more in social, political and financial influence than its size would indicate. Nestled between Switzerland and Austria in the European Alps, Liechtenstein has established a stable and growing democratic government. For over 200 years it has maintained a constitutional monarchy with a vibrant parliament that employs a strong system of checks and balances.

I, along with many of my colleagues, have had the privilege of visiting Liechtenstein on several occasions, and I was intrigued by its fascinating history and the people's commitment to freedom that has lasted for centuries. The Liechtenstein family of Austria were given the rights to the land in 1713, and the area gained the status of an independent principality of the Holy Roman Empire in 1719 under the name Liechtenstein. When, in 1806, Napoleon defeated the Holy Roman Empire, the conquered Emperor made Liechtenstein a sovereign country. Unfortunately, the people of Liechtenstein were not granted the full rights and liberties that come with sovereignty, as under Napoleon, the French occupied the country for the next few years. However, in 1815 within the new German Confederation, Liechtenstein regained its full independence.

Liechtenstein has a long history in diplomacy and peaceful relations with their neighbors. In 1868, after the Confederation dissolved, Liechtenstein disbanded its army of 80 men and declared its permanent neutrality, which amazingly was respected through both world wars. In 1989, Prince Hans Adam II succeeded his father to the throne. Ten years ago, Prince Adam accomplished a diplomatic feat by settling a 60-year-long dispute with Russia over the Liechtenstein family's archives, which had been confiscated during the Soviet occupation of Vienna in 1945 and later moved to Moscow.

After World War II, Liechtenstein became increasingly important as a financial center. In 1978, Liechtenstein became a member of the Council of Europe and joined the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) in 1991. Liechtenstein has been a member of the European Economic Area since May 1995 and is continuing to work to harmonize its economic policies more closely with the European Union. One of Liechtenstein's most industrious resources is its people. Liechtenstein has invested much effort in education, and now boasts a literacy rate of 100 percent.

The United States and Liechtenstein have enjoyed a positive relationship for many years. In 2002, Liechtenstein and the U.S. signed a mutual legal assistance treaty, which focused largely on jointly combating money laundering and other illegal banking activities. In addition, from the beginning of the global war on terror, Liechtenstein took the initiative and has been a valuable and proactive partner in tracking down the finances of international terrorist groups.

Mr. Speaker, we are all aware of the dangerous world we live in. In the years following

the dreadful attacks of September 11, we have been honored by the support and compassion of our friends around the world. While it is necessary and just to condemn countries for the threat they pose, I believe it is equally vital to honor countries for the support they provide. Liechtenstein is one of these countries whose contribution should be recognized. For these reasons, I encourage my colleagues to take a closer look at the unique nation of Liechtenstein and join me in honoring their great accomplishments.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. STEARNS from Florida for offering the resolution before us. I hope our colleagues support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 233, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

SBA ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS ACT OF 2007

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2359) to reauthorize programs to assist small business concerns, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2359

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “SBA Entrepreneurial Development Programs Act of 2007”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—REVISIONS TO SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

Sec. 101. Small Business Development Centers operational changes.

TITLE II—GRANT INITIATIVES

Sec. 201. Capital Access Initiative.

Sec. 202. Disaster Recovery Program.

Sec. 203. Innovation and Competitiveness Services to Manufacturers Initiative.

Sec. 204. Mature Entrepreneurs Assistance Program.

Sec. 205. Small Business Sustainability Initiative.

Sec. 206. Grants to small business development centers to provide assistance in securing affordable health insurance.

Sec. 207. National regulatory assistance.

Sec. 208. Report.

TITLE III—SCORE

Sec. 301. Repeal of Active Corporation of Executives.

Sec. 302. Increasing the proportion of SCORE volunteers from socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Sec. 303. Benchmark reporting.

TITLE I—REVISIONS TO SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

SEC. 101. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS OPERATIONAL CHANGES.

(a) ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENT.—Section 21(a)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in the proviso, by inserting before “institution” the following: “accredited”;

(2) in the sentence beginning “The Administration shall”, by inserting before “institutions” the following: “accredited”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new sentence: “As used in this paragraph, the term ‘accredited institution of higher education’ means an institution that is accredited as described in section 101(a)(5) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)(5)).”

(b) PROGRAM NEGOTIATIONS.—Section 21(a)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)) is amended, in the matter before subparagraph (A), by inserting before “agreed” the following: “mutually”.

(c) CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS.—Section 21(a)(3)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)(A)) is amended by inserting after “uniform negotiated” the following: “mutually agreed to”.

(d) NO SBA INTERFERENCE IN SBDC HIRING.—Section 21(c)(2)(A) of that Act (15 U.S.C. 648(c)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting after “full-time staff” the following: “, the hiring of which is carried out by the center without interference from, and without influence by, any officer or employee of the Administration.”.

(e) CONTENT OF CONSULTATIONS COVERED BY PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—Section 21(a)(7)(A) of that Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(7)(A)) is amended by inserting after “under this section” the following: “, or the content of any consultation with such an individual or small business concern.”.

(f) REPEAL OF AUTHORITY TO USE AUTHORIZED AMOUNTS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Section 21(a)(4)(C)(v) of that Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(4)(C)(v)) is amended by amending subclause (I) to read as follows:

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts made available in any fiscal year to carry out this section, not more than \$500,000 may be used by the Administration to pay expenses enumerated in subparagraphs (B) through (D) of section 20(a)(1).”.

(g) NO CAP ON NON-MATCHING PORTABILITY GRANTS IN THE EVENT OF A DISASTER.—Section 21(a)(4)(C)(viii) of that Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(4)(C)(viii)) is amended by adding at the end the following: “However, in the event of a disaster, the dollar limitation in the preceding sentence does not apply.”.

(h) DEFINITION OF SBDC.—Section 21(a) of that Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(8) DEFINITION.—For the purposes of this section, a Small Business Development Center is—

“(A) the entity selected by the Administrator to receive funds pursuant to the funding formula set forth in paragraph (4); or

“(B) the site at which the services specified by this section are delivered.”.

(i) LIMITATION ON DISTRIBUTION TO SBDCS.—Section 21(b) of that Act (15 U.S.C. 648(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) LIMITATION ON DISTRIBUTION TO SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this paragraph, the Administrator shall not distribute funds to a Small Business Development Center if the State in which the Small Business Development Center is located is served by more than one Small Business Development Center. For purposes of this limitation, the term Small Business Development Center shall have the meaning set forth in subsection (a)(8).

“(B) UNAVAILABILITY EXCEPTION.—The Administrator may distribute funds to two Small Business Development Centers, as that term is defined in subsection (a)(8)(A), if no applicant has applied to serve the entire State. Except as provided in subparagraph (C), the Administrator is prohibited from distributing funds to more than two Small Business Development Centers.

“(C) GRANDFATHER CLAUSE.—The limitations in this paragraph shall not apply for any State in which more than one Small Business Development Center received funding prior to January 1, 2007.”.

(j) REPORTING OF BROADBAND SERVICE PURCHASES.—Section 21(c) of that Act (15 U.S.C. 648(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(9) REPORTING OF BROADBAND SERVICE PURCHASES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to policies adopted by the Administrator, Small Business Development Centers shall report information to the Administrator by nine-digit zip code—

“(i) whether the individual seeking counseling purchases broadband service at the address reported to the Small Business Development Center;

“(ii) if the reported address is different than the business address, whether broadband service is purchased at the business address; and

“(iii) if broadband service is not purchased at the addresses set forth in clauses (i) and (ii).

“(B) REPORTING.—The Administrator shall aggregate data by nine-digit zip code reporting such information to the Federal Communications Commission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.”.

TITLE II—GRANT INITIATIVES

SEC. 201. CAPITAL ACCESS INITIATIVE.

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

“(n) CAPITAL ACCESS INITIATIVE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A lead Small Business Development Center may apply for an additional grant to carry out a capital access initiative program.

“(2) ELEMENTS OF PROGRAM.—Under a program under paragraph (1), the Center shall—

“(A) provide capital education by creating a model template to assist individuals in preparing for a broad range of capital offerings;

“(B) assess company potential by conducting company assessments, which shall include, at a minimum, risk analysis and mapping of best capital opportunities;

“(C) prepare individuals to request capital by advising on the various aspects of such a request, including the business plan, the financials, the projections, the presentation, and the approach;

“(D) provide education on the rules of access engagement, organizations involved and available, and approaches that maximize successful requests; and

“(E) deliver ongoing assistance once capital is secured.

“(3) SUPPORT.—In carrying out this subsection, the Administrator shall obtain support from national associations and from organizations such as regional development groups and ‘angel’ groups founded by Small Business Development Centers.

“(4) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—Each grant under this subsection shall be for at least \$100,000.