

that continue to this day for the least among us.

Rev. Jackson, today we are reminded that no trail is blazed alone.

HONORING THE REVEREND JESSE JACKSON

(Ms. FUDGE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Rev. Jesse Jackson's historic run for President of these United States 25 years ago. Main Street pundits then underestimated his ability to draw Americans to the polls, but his passionate devotion to the advancement of the disenfranchised resonated with so many Americans. In fact, in his 1988 Presidential bid, he won 11 contests, 7 primaries, and 4 Democratic caucuses.

His current activism moves our Nation towards the true inclusion of diverse ideas, of classes, races, and ethnicities. In his words, he said, "At the end of the day, we must go forward with hope and not backward by fear and division."

As an agent of social, political, and economic change, Rev. Jackson has positively impacted the lives of many. I celebrate Rev. Jackson's achievements and applaud him for continuing his advocacy for economic parity and minority inclusion.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you so much for this opportunity, and I thank Mr. JACKSON for being in our midst today.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REVEREND JESSE JACKSON'S RUN FOR PRESIDENT

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 25-year anniversary of the Jesse Jackson run for President of the United States.

As a resident of Chicago, I have been privileged to be up front and close to the Jesse Jackson phenomenon. I have seen his positive impact on Chicago as he globalized a world vision for change. I know how he has helped the Democratic Party to become more democratic and the Republican Party to focus more on the Republic.

He has advanced the causes of all minorities, helped Illinois become a State where African Americans and other minorities can be elected to the highest of public offices, and he laid the groundwork for the election of the Nation's first African American President, Barack Obama.

Rev. Jackson, we salute you.

THANKING THE REVEREND JESSE JACKSON FOR HIS 1984 RUN FOR PRESIDENCY

(Mr. RUSH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I am here to congratulate and thank Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr. Thank you, Rev. Jackson, for your historic run for President in 1984.

But I really want to thank you for what you did for me back in the summer of 1969. My friend and fellow member on the Illinois chapter of the Black Panther party was assassinated while he slept in his bed at 4 a.m. by the Chicago Police Department and Cook County State's Attorney's Office. The very next morning, at 5 a.m., they came to my apartment, seeking to kill me. I was not there. I was running for my life over the next few days, until Saturday, December 8, 1969, I turned myself in to Operation PUSH and the Reverend Jesse Louis Jackson.

Mr. Speaker, if it had not been for Rev. Jesse Louis Jackson, I would have been killed. If it had not been for Rev. Jesse Louis Jackson, I would not be here today. If it had not been for Rev. Jesse Louis Jackson, I would not be representing the people of the First Congressional District.

Thank you, Rev. Jackson. I love you, and you can't do nothing about it.

LOAN MODIFICATION SCAM AWARENESS MONTH

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I will not be speaking on Rev. Jackson this morning, but I will be submitting something for the RECORD, as I know that my good colleague Mr. COHEN of Tennessee will also.

Actually, today I rise to talk about something I think is very important, and I think that Jesse Jackson and others who have worked so hard for the community would care about. I rise to recognize National Loan Modification Scam Awareness Month which was established to stop predators around the country from taking advantage of our constituents who are at risk of foreclosure.

Currently, in California, the foreclosure rate is 10.8 percent. Experts predict that nationwide there will be 8.1 million foreclosures by the year 2012, and given this environment, loan modification scams are proliferating at a rapid pace. Every day, more homeowners are falling prey to slick advertising that promises to help them stay in their homes if they pay a third party.

NeighborWorks America and their affiliates around the country are working to combat loan modification scams. To do so, they have launched a national public education campaign to help homeowners protect themselves against loan modification scams, find trusted help, and report illegal activity to authorities.

I urge my colleagues to support National Loan Modification Scam Awareness Month.

HONORING THE REVEREND JESSE JACKSON

(Mr. CARSON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, in the year of 1984, a young man 9 years old, myself with my grandmother, had the chance to tag along with Rev. Jackson as he visited Indianapolis multiple times, and I got a chance to go out to San Francisco. Rev. Jackson, we commend you and love you not only because you are a great civil rights leader, but you are an oratorical genius. "Up with hope, down with dope," "Keep hope alive," bringing multiple races together, but also breaking down racial, psychological barriers that existed at that time. You led the way for our beloved President. We owe you. Back then as a 9-year-old young man, he reminded me of the lyrical greats, the MellyMels, the Run-DMCs, the James Baldwins.

He was a leader. He is a leader. We deserve to honor him, and we will continue to honor him.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PASTOR of Arizona). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

AUTHORIZING THE SCORE PROGRAM

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1839) to amend the Small Business Act to improve SCORE, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1839

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

SECTION 1. EXPANSION OF VOLUNTEER REPRESENTATION AND BENCHMARK REPORTS.

(a) EXPANSION OF VOLUNTEER REPRESENTATION.—Section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)) is amended—

(1) by inserting "(1)" after "(B)"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(i) The Administrator shall ensure that SCORE, established under this subparagraph, carries out a plan to increase the proportion of mentors who are from socially or economically disadvantaged backgrounds and, on an annual basis, reports to the Administrator on the implementation of this subparagraph."

(b) BENCHMARK REPORTS.—Section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15

U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)), as amended, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) The Administrator shall ensure that SCORE, established under this subparagraph, establishes benchmarks for use in evaluating the performance of its activities and of its volunteers. The benchmarks shall include benchmarks relating to the demographic characteristics and the geographic characteristics of persons assisted by SCORE, benchmarks related to the hours spent mentoring by volunteers, and benchmarks relating to the performance of the persons assisted by SCORE. SCORE shall report, on an annual basis, to the Administrator the extent to which the benchmarks established under this clause are being attained.”

SEC. 2. MENTORING AND NETWORKING.

Section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)), as amended, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) The Administrator shall ensure that SCORE, established under this subparagraph, establishes a mentoring program for small business concerns that provides one-on-one advice to small business concerns from qualified counselors. For purposes of this clause, qualified counselors are counselors with at least 10 years experience in the industry sector or area of responsibility of the small business concern seeking advice.

“(v) The Administrator shall carry out a networking program through SCORE, established under this subparagraph, that provides small business concerns with the opportunity to make business contacts in their industry or geographic region.”

SEC. 3. NAME OF PROGRAM CHANGED TO SCORE.

(a) NAME CHANGE.—The Small Business Act is amended as follows:

(1) In section 8(b)(1)(B) (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)), by striking “Executives (SCORE)” and inserting “Executives (in this Act referred to as ‘SCORE’)”.

(2) In section 7(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII) (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII)), by striking “the Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE”.

(3) In section 20 (15 U.S.C. 631 note)—

(A) in subsection (d)(1)(E), by striking “the Service Corps of Retired Executives program” and inserting “SCORE”; and

(B) in subsection (e)(1)(E), by striking “the Service Corps of Retired Executives program” and inserting “SCORE”.

(4) In section 33(b)(2) (15 U.S.C. 657c(b)(2)), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE”.

(b) ELIMINATION OF ACE.—Section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)), as amended, is further amended by striking “and an Active Corps of Executive (ACE)”.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended by inserting the following new subsection after subsection (e):

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR SCORE.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$7,000,000 for SCORE under section 8(b)(1) for each of the fiscal years 2010 and 2011.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BUCHANAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. 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 bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, when first starting out, entrepreneurs often struggled with basics, like marketing their services, accessing capital, and learning to navigate the tax code. In the earliest stages of development, mistakes in these areas can mean the difference between a venture's success and its failure. That is why the SCORE program was established to help fledgling business owners learn the ropes of entrepreneurship.

By matching new business owners with practiced hands, SCORE helps entrepreneurs trade best practices and learn from the mistakes of their fore-runners. The program functions as a mentoring service, one that allows retired business owners to continue giving back to their communities. This is a laudable goal to be sure. But unfortunately, SCORE has not kept pace with the shifting marketplace. H.R. 1839 will update and enhance the program, tailoring it to meet the needs of today's entrepreneurs.

With the economy in flux, small firms require specialized training in areas not previously offered. To begin, technology plays a vastly more important role in entrepreneurship than it has in the past.

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This bill recognizes that fact and modernizes the SCORE to deliver the kind of training that is critical to doing business in the information age.

Just as the business world is changing, so, too, is the face of entrepreneurship. In recent years, we have seen a surge in the number of women and minorities starting their own firms; and yet for some reason, SCORE has failed to reflect that trend.

Mr. BUCHANAN's bill will promote greater diversity within the program. That way, we can better match small business owners with mentors and be sure every entrepreneur, regardless of race, gender, industry or region, has access to the specialized resources they need to be successful.

This bill helps train the next generation's small business innovators. It allows them to sidestep the pitfalls of early entrepreneurship and get straight to work doing what they do best: creating jobs and growing our economy.

H.R. 1839 is an important piece of legislation, and I thank Representative BUCHANAN for his contribution.

I urge support and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

I rise today in strong support of my legislation to modernize the Small Business Administration's small business counseling program. The Service Corps of Retired Executives program,

also known as SCORE, provides entrepreneurs with the small business advice of working and retired executive volunteers.

For years, SCORE has been providing entrepreneurship with free, confidential, and valued small business advice. With double-digit unemployment rates, more people will be trying to start their own business today. Their success is vital to an economic recovery. This bill will help ensure that qualified volunteers are available to provide one-on-one advice and counsel to small businesses.

Research shows that small businesses are five times more likely to start if they get assistance from a government-supported program such as SCORE. This bill will require SCORE administrators to actively recruit and maintain volunteer mentors and track their success. Counselors will be required to have at least 10 years of similar experience.

Earlier this year, the chairwoman from the Manasota SCORE chapter, Jeannette Mills, testified in support of my bill before the small business Subcommittee on Rural Development, Entrepreneurship and Trade. She said, “SCORE fulfills a vital role for America's small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs by providing much needed technical assistance. As you know, many small businesses continue to struggle with layoffs, access to capital, cash flow and overall management issues advise. SCORE has a proven track record of both being creative and saving jobs by improving business survival rates as well as accelerating small business formation.”

Here are some facts about SCORE for people that aren't aware. They have assisted in more than 523,000 people in the last year; they provided counseling to more than 8.5 million business owners; they've conducted more than 322,000 counseling sessions; they've received 3.2 million visitors to their Web site in just the last year; they have helped create more than 20,000 new small businesses.

I know from my own experience in the 1980s, I remember the U.S. Chamber came out with a statistic, as I remember today, 92 percent that start up small businesses fail in 5 years. But the IFA had a statistic during that time, the International Franchise Association, that 80 percent of businesses succeed. Because of that partnership, they could be in business for themselves, but not by themselves. That's what SCORE provides. We want a much higher probability of success, not a 92 percent failure rate. We want an 80 percent or better-type success rate for small businesses that will create jobs.

Also, currently SCORE has 389 chapter locations throughout the United States with over 10,000 volunteers nationwide.

I'd like to close by thanking my good friend, and her incredible leadership on small business, Chairwoman

VELÁZQUEZ, as well as Ranking Member GRAVES for their support and assistance with this important bill.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today in support of H.R. 1839, "to amend the small business act to improve SCORE, and for other purposes." I would like to thank my colleague, Congressman VERN BUCHANAN, for his leadership on this important legislation. The SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) program provides entrepreneurs with the business advice of working and retired executive volunteers.

This legislation will modernize the Small Business Administration's (SBA) small business counseling program. This legislation requires the Administrator of the Small Business Administration (SBA) to ensure that SCORE carries out a plan to increase the proportion of small business mentors from socially or economically disadvantaged backgrounds, and reports annually to the Administrator on plan implementation, establishes benchmarks for evaluating its activities and volunteers and establishes a mentoring program of one-on-one advice to small businesses from qualified counselors.

Over the years SCORE has been providing entrepreneurs with free, confidential, and valuable small business advice. With unprecedented unemployment rates, more people will be trying to start their own business. Their success is vital to our economic recovery. This bill will help ensure that qualified volunteers are available to provide one-on-one advice and counsel to small businesses.

Research shows that small businesses are five times more likely to start if they get assistance from a government supported program such as SCORE. The "Retired Executives Building Better Businesses Act of 2009" would require SCORE administrators to actively recruit and maintain volunteer mentors and track their success. Counselors would be required to have at least ten years of similar experience.

My district is the perfect example of why small businesses are so vital to the nation's economy. Houston's newer and growing economic sub-centers have relied more on small business as their cornerstone than the older Central Business District. According to a report issued by the Office of Advocacy of the U.S. Small Business Administration findings suggest that while small firms support urban economic growth, as development proceeds they grow substantially. In turn, small firm growth plays an important role in urban economic development which is likely to lead to economic growth for the entire local economy. Moreover, small businesses—including minority- and women-owned companies—are the leading employers in the Houston area and provide nearly half of all jobs in Texas.

Many small businesses continue to struggle with layoffs, access to capital, cash flow and overall management issues. SCORE has a proven track record of both creating and saving jobs by improving business survival rates as well as accelerating small business formation which is why this legislation is so important. SCORE fulfills a vital role for America's small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs by providing much needed technical assistance. In 2007 SCORE volunteers assisted in the creation of almost 20,000 new small businesses and help create more than 25,000 new jobs each year. Currently, SCORE

has 389 chapters in locations throughout the United States with 10,500 volunteers nationwide.

I urge my colleagues to support small business by voting in favor of this vital legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1839, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIVE AMERICAN BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2009

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1834) to amend the Small Business Act to expand and improve the assistance provided to Indian tribe members, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1834

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Native American Business Development Enhancement Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. OFFICE OF NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS; TRIBAL BUSINESS INFORMATION CENTERS PROGRAM.

(a) ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.—Section 4(b)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 633(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking "five Associate Administrators" and inserting "six Associate Administrators"; and

(2) by inserting after "vested in the Administration." the following: "One such Associate Administrator shall be the Associate Administrator for Native American Affairs, who shall administer the Office of Native American Affairs established under section 44."

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 44 as section 45; and

(2) by inserting after section 43 the following:

"SEC. 44. OFFICE OF NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS AND TRIBAL BUSINESS INFORMATION CENTERS PROGRAM.

"(a) OFFICE OF NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS.—

"(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Administration an Office of Native American Affairs (hereinafter referred to in this subsection as the 'Office').

"(2) ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.—The Office shall be administered by an Associate Administrator appointed under section 4(b)(1).

"(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Office shall have the following responsibilities:

"(A) Developing and implementing tools and strategies to increase Native American entrepreneurship.

"(B) Expanding the access of Native American entrepreneurs to business training, financing, and Federal small business contracts.

"(C) Expanding outreach to Native American communities and marketing entrepreneurial development services to such communities.

"(D) Representing the Administration with respect to Native American economic development matters.

"(4) COORDINATION AND OVERSIGHT FUNCTION.—The Office shall provide oversight with respect to and assist the implementation of all Administration initiatives relating to Native American entrepreneurial development.

"(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this subsection, there is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

"(b) TRIBAL BUSINESS INFORMATION CENTERS PROGRAM.—

"(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator is authorized to operate, alone or in coordination with other Federal departments and agencies, a Tribal Business Information Centers program that provides Native American populations with business training and entrepreneurial development assistance.

"(2) DESIGNATION OF CENTERS.—The Administrator shall designate entities as centers under the Tribal Business Information Centers program.

"(3) ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT.—The Administrator may contribute agency personnel and resources to the centers designated under paragraph (2) to carry out this subsection.

"(4) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Administrator is authorized to make grants of not more than \$300,000 to centers designated under paragraph (2) for the purpose of providing Native Americans the following:

"(A) Business workshops.

"(B) Individualized business counseling.

"(C) Entrepreneurial development training.

"(D) Access to computer technology and other resources to start or expand a business.

"(5) REGULATIONS.—The Administrator shall by regulation establish a process for designating centers under paragraph (2) and making the grants authorized under paragraph (4).

"(6) DEFINITION OF ADMINISTRATOR.—In this subsection, the term 'Administrator' means the Administrator, acting through the Associate Administrator administering the Office of Native American Affairs.

"(7) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this subsection, there is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and \$17,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

"(c) DEFINITION OF NATIVE AMERICAN.—The term 'Native American' means an Indian tribe member, Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian as such are defined in section 21(a)(8) of this Act."

SEC. 3. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER ASSISTANCE TO INDIAN TRIBE MEMBERS, ALASKA NATIVES, AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS.

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

"(8) ADDITIONAL GRANT TO ASSIST INDIAN TRIBE MEMBERS, ALASKA NATIVES, AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Any applicant in an eligible State that is funded by the Administration as a Small Business Development Center may apply for an additional grant to be used solely to provide services described in subsection (c)(3) to assist with outreach, development, and enhancement on Indian lands