

business concern that was qualified pursuant to section 3(p)(5) of the Small Business Act [formerly 15 U.S.C. 632(p)(5), now 15 U.S.C. 657a(b)(4)] on or before December 31, 2019, shall continue to be considered as a qualified HUBZone small business concern during the period beginning on January 1, 2020, and ending on the date that the Administrator of the Small Business Administration prepares the online tool depicting qualified areas described under section 31(d)(7) [15 U.S.C. 657a(d)(7)] (as added by subsection (h) of this section).”

REPORT

Pub. L. 105-135, title VI, §606, Dec. 2, 1997, 111 Stat. 2635, required the Administrator to submit to Congress, by Mar. 1, 2002, a report on the HUBZone program and the degree to which the program resulted in increased employment opportunities and an increased level of investment in HUBZones.

§ 657b. Veterans programs

(a) Office of Veterans Business Development

There is established in the Administration an Office of Veterans Business Development, which shall be administered by the Associate Administrator for Veterans Business Development (in this section referred to as the “Associate Administrator”) appointed under section 633(b)(1) of this title.

(b) Associate Administrator for Veterans Business Development

The Associate Administrator—

(1) shall be an appointee in the Senior Executive Service;

(2) shall be responsible for the formulation, execution, and promotion of policies and programs of the Administration that provide assistance to small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans. The Associate Administrator shall act as an ombudsman for full consideration of veterans in all programs of the Administration; and

(3) shall report to and be responsible directly to the Administrator.

(c) Interagency task force

(1) Establishment

Not later than 90 days after February 14, 2008, the President shall establish an interagency task force to coordinate the efforts of Federal agencies necessary to improve capital and business development opportunities for, and ensure achievement of the pre-established Federal contracting goals for, small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans and small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans (in this section referred to as the “task force”).

(2) Membership

The members of the task force shall include—

(A) the Administrator, who shall serve as chairperson of the task force; and

(B) a senior level representative from—

(i) the Department of Veterans Affairs;

(ii) the Department of Defense;

(iii) the Administration (in addition to the Administrator);

(iv) the Department of Labor;

(v) the Department of the Treasury;

(vi) the General Services Administration;

(vii) the Office of Management and Budget; and

(viii) 4 representatives from a veterans service organization or military organization or association, selected by the President.

(3) Duties

The task force shall—

(A) consult regularly with veterans service organizations and military organizations in performing the duties of the task force; and

(B) coordinate administrative and regulatory activities and develop proposals relating to—

(i) improving capital access and capacity of small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans and small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans through loans, surety bonding, and franchising;

(ii) ensuring achievement of the pre-established Federal contracting goals for small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans and small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans through expanded mentor-protégé assistance and matching such small business concerns with contracting opportunities;

(iii) increasing the integrity of certifications of status as a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans or a small business concern owned and controlled by veterans;

(iv) reducing paperwork and administrative burdens on veterans in accessing business development and entrepreneurship opportunities;

(v) increasing and improving training and counseling services provided to small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans; and

(vi) making other improvements relating to the support for veterans business development by the Federal Government.

(d) Participation in TAP Workshops

(1) In general

The Associate Administrator shall increase veteran outreach by ensuring that Veteran Business Outreach Centers regularly participate, on a nationwide basis, in the workshops of the Transition Assistance Program of the Department of Labor.

(2) Presentations

In carrying out paragraph (1), a Veteran Business Outreach Center may provide grants to entities located in Transition Assistance Program locations to make presentations on the opportunities available from the Administration for recently separating or separated veterans. Each presentation under this paragraph shall include, at a minimum, a description of the entrepreneurial and business training resources available from the Administration.

(3) Written materials

The Associate Administrator shall—

(A) create written materials that provide comprehensive information on self-employment and veterans entrepreneurship, including information on resources available from the Administration on such topics; and

(B) make the materials created under subparagraph (A) available to the Secretary of Labor for inclusion in the Transition Assistance Program manual.

(4) Reports

The Associate Administrator shall submit to Congress progress reports on the implementation of this subsection.

(e) Women veterans business training

The Associate Administrator shall—

(1) compile information on existing resources available to women veterans for business training, including resources for—

(A) vocational and technical education;

(B) general business skills, such as marketing and accounting; and

(C) business assistance programs targeted to women veterans; and

(2) disseminate the information compiled under paragraph (1) through Veteran Business Outreach Centers and women's business centers.

(f) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

(1) \$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2005; and

(2) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2006.

(g) Access to surplus property for veteran-owned small businesses

(1) Definitions

In this subsection—

(A) the term “foreign excess property” has the meaning given the term in section 102 of title 40; and

(B) the term “state agency” has the meaning given the term, including the roles and responsibilities assigned, in section 549 of title 40.

(2) Requirement

The Administrator, in coordination with the Administrator of General Services, shall provide access to and manage the distribution of surplus property, and foreign excess property returned to a State for handling as surplus property, owned by the United States under chapter 7 of title 40, to small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans (as verified by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under section 8127 of title 38) pursuant to a memorandum of agreement between the Administrator, the Administrator of General Services, and the head of the applicable state agency for surplus properties and in accordance with section 549 of title 40.

(h) Boots to Business Program

(1) Covered individual defined

In this subsection, the term “covered individual” means—

(A) an individual who is participating in the Transition Assistance Program established under section 1144 of title 10, subject

to an availability determination by the Secretary of the military department concerned;

(B) a servicemember in the National Guard or Reserves not on active duty.¹

(C) an individual who—

(i) served on active duty in any branch of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves; and

(ii) was discharged or released from such service under conditions other than dishonorable; or

(D) a spouse or dependent of an individual described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C).

(2) Establishment

During the period beginning on December 23, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2028, the Administrator shall carry out a program to be known as the “Boots to Business Program” to provide entrepreneurship training to covered individuals.

(3) Goals

The goals of the Boots to Business Program are to—

(A) provide assistance and in-depth training to covered individuals interested in business ownership; and

(B) provide covered individuals with the tools, skills, and knowledge necessary to identify a business opportunity, draft a business plan, identify sources of capital, connect with local resources for small business concerns, and start up a small business concern.

(4) Program components

(A) In general

The Boots to Business Program may include—

(i) a presentation providing exposure to the considerations involved in self-employment and ownership of a small business concern;

(ii) an online, self-study course focused on the basic skills of entrepreneurship, the language of business, and the considerations involved in self-employment and ownership of a small business concern;

(iii) an in-person classroom instruction component providing an introduction to the foundations of self-employment and ownership of a small business concern; and

(iv) in-depth training delivered through online instruction, including an online course that leads to the creation of a business plan.

(B) Collaboration

The Administrator may—

(i) collaborate with public and private entities to develop course curricula for the Boots to Business Program; and

(ii) modify program components in coordination with entities participating in a Warriors in Transition program, as defined in section 738(e) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (10 U.S.C. 1071 note).

¹ So in original. The period probably should be a semicolon.

(C) Use of resource partners and district offices**(i) In general**

The Administrator shall—

(I) ensure that Veteran Business Outreach Centers regularly participate, on a nationwide basis, in the Boots to Business Program; and

(II) to the maximum extent practicable, use district offices of the Administration and a variety of other resource partners and entities in administering the Boots to Business Program.

(ii) Grant authority

In carrying out clause (i), the Administrator may make grants, subject to the availability of appropriations in advance, to Veteran Business Outreach Centers, other resource partners, or other entities to carry out components of the Boots to Business Program.

(D) Availability to Department of Defense and the Department of Labor

The Administrator shall make available to the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Labor information regarding the Boots to Business Program, including all course materials and outreach materials related to the Boots to Business Program, for inclusion on the websites of the Department of Defense and the Department of Labor relating to the Transition Assistance Program, in the Transition Assistance Program manual, and in other relevant materials available for distribution from the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Labor.

(E) Availability to Department of Veterans Affairs

In consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Administrator shall make available for distribution and display on the website of the Department of Veterans Affairs and at local facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs outreach materials regarding the Boots to Business Program, which shall, at a minimum—

(i) describe the Boots to Business Program and the services provided; and

(ii) include eligibility requirements for participating in the Boots to Business Program.

(F) Availability to other participating agencies

The Administrator shall ensure information regarding the Boots to Business Program, including all course materials and outreach materials related to the Boots to Business Program, is made available to other participating agencies in the Transition Assistance Program and upon request of other agencies.

(5) Competitive bidding procedures

The Administration shall use relevant competitive bidding procedures with respect to any contract or cooperative agreement executed by the Administration under the Boots to Business Program.

(6) Publication of notice of funding opportunity

Not later than 30 days before the deadline for submitting applications for any funding opportunity under the Boots to Business Program, the Administration shall publish a notice of the funding opportunity.

(7) Report

Not later than 180 days after December 23, 2024, and not less frequently than annually thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report on the performance and effectiveness of the Boots to Business Program, which—

(A) may be included as part of another report submitted to such committees by the Administrator related to the Office of Veterans Business Development; and

(B) shall summarize available information relating to—

(i) grants awarded under paragraph (4)(C);

(ii) the total cost of the Boots to Business Program;

(iii) the number of program participants using each component of the Boots to Business Program;

(iv) the completion rates for each component of the Boots to Business Program;

(v) to the extent possible—

(I) the demographics of program participants, to include gender, age, race, ethnicity, and relationship to military;

(II) the number of program participants that connect with a district office of the Administration, a Veteran Business Outreach Center, or another resource partner of the Administration;

(III) the number of program participants that start a small business concern;

(IV) the results of the Boots to Business and Boots to Business Reboot course quality surveys conducted by the Office of Veterans Business Development before and after attending each of those courses, including a summary of any comments received from program participants;

(V) the results of the Boots to Business Program outcome surveys conducted by the Office of Veterans Business Development, including a summary of any comments received from program participants; and

(VI) the results of other germane participant satisfaction surveys;

(C) an evaluation of the overall effectiveness of the Boots to Business Program based on each geographic region covered by the Administration during the most recent fiscal year;

(D) an assessment of additional performance outcome measures for the Boots to Business Program, as identified by the Administrator;

(E) any recommendations of the Administrator for improvement of the Boots to Busi-

ness Program, which may include expansion of the types of individuals who are covered individuals;

(F) an explanation of how the Boots to Business Program has been integrated with other transition programs and related resources of the Administration and other Federal agencies; and

(G) any additional information the Administrator determines necessary.

(Pub. L. 85-536, §2[32], as added Pub. L. 106-50, title II, §201(b)(2), Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 235; amended Pub. L. 108-447, div. K, title I, §145, Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3455; Pub. L. 110-186, title I, §§102, 104, Feb. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 624, 625; Pub. L. 115-416, §2, Jan. 3, 2019, 132 Stat. 5436; Pub. L. 118-159, div. A, title VIII, §873(a), Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 2008.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 738(e) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, referred to in subsec. (h)(4)(B)(ii), is section 738(e) of Pub. L. 112-239, which is set out in a note under section 1071 of Title 10, Armed Forces.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2[32] of Pub. L. 85-536 was renumbered section 2[49] and is set out as a note under section 631 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

- 2024—Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 118-159 added subsec. (h).
 2019—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 115-416 added subsec. (g).
 2008—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 110-186, §102(2), added subsec. (c). Former subsec. (c) redesignated (f).
 Subsecs. (d), (e). Pub. L. 110-186, §104, added subsecs. (d) and (e).
 Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 110-186, §102(1), redesignated subsec. (c) as (f).
 2004—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 108-447 added subsec. (c).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS

Pub. L. 106-50, title I, §101, Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 234, provided that: "Congress finds the following:

"(1) Veterans of the United States Armed Forces have been and continue to be vital to the small business enterprises of the United States.

"(2) In serving the United States, veterans often faced great risks to preserve the American dream of freedom and prosperity.

"(3) The United States has done too little to assist veterans, particularly service-disabled veterans, in playing a greater role in the economy of the United States by forming and expanding small business enterprises.

"(4) Medical advances and new medical technologies have made it possible for service-disabled veterans to play a much more active role in the formation and expansion of small business enterprises in the United States.

"(5) The United States must provide additional assistance and support to veterans to better equip them to form and expand small business enterprises, thereby enabling them to realize the American dream that they fought to protect."

CONGRESSIONAL PURPOSE

Pub. L. 106-50, title I, §102, Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 234, provided that: "The purpose of this Act [see Short Title of 1999 Amendments note set out under section 631 of

this title] is to expand existing and establish new assistance programs for veterans who own or operate small businesses. This Act accomplishes this purpose by—

"(1) expanding the eligibility for certain small business assistance programs to include veterans;

"(2) directing certain departments and agencies of the United States to take actions that enhance small business assistance to veterans; and

"(3) establishing new institutions to provide small business assistance to veterans or to support the institutions that provide such assistance."

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON VETERANS BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Pub. L. 106-50, title II, §203, Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 239, as amended by Pub. L. 108-447, div. K, title I, §143(b), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3455; Pub. L. 110-186, title I, §103(b), Feb. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 625; Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title XVI, §1699(c)(3), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 2092, provided that:

"(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established an advisory committee to be known as the 'Advisory Committee on Veterans Business Affairs' (in this section referred to as the 'Committee'), which shall serve as an independent source of advice and policy recommendations to—

"(1) the Administrator of the Small Business Administration (in this section referred to as the 'Administrator');

"(2) the Associate Administrator for Veterans Business Development of the Small Business Administration;

"(3) the Congress;

"(4) the President; and

"(5) other United States policymakers.

"(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall be composed of 15 members, of whom—

"(A) eight shall be veterans who are owners of small business concerns (within the meaning of the term under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)); and

"(B) seven shall be representatives of veterans organizations.

"(2) APPOINTMENT.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Administrator in accordance with this section.

"(B) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 17, 1999], the Administrator shall appoint the initial members of the Committee.

"(3) POLITICAL AFFILIATION.—Not more than eight members of the Committee shall be of the same political party as the President.

"(4) PROHIBITION ON FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), no member of the Committee may serve as an officer or employee of the United States.

"(B) EXCEPTION.—A member of the Committee who accepts a position as an officer or employee of the United States after the date of the member's appointment to the Committee may continue to serve on the Committee for not more than 30 days after such acceptance.

"(5) TERM OF SERVICE.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the term of service of each member of the Committee shall be 3 years.

"(B) TERMS OF INITIAL APPOINTEES.—As designated by the Administrator at the time of appointment, of the members first appointed—

"(i) six shall be appointed for a term of 4 years; and

"(ii) five shall be appointed for a term of 5 years.

"(6) VACANCIES.—The Administrator shall fill any vacancies on the membership of the Committee not later than 30 days after the date on which such vacancy occurs.

“(7) CHAIRPERSON.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The members of the Committee shall elect one of the members to be Chairperson of the Committee.

“(B) VACANCIES IN OFFICE OF CHAIRPERSON.—Any vacancy in the office of the Chairperson of the Committee shall be filled by the Committee at the first meeting of the Committee following the date on which the vacancy occurs.

“(c) DUTIES.—The duties of the Committee shall be the following:

“(1) Review, coordinate, and monitor plans and programs developed in the public and private sectors, that affect the ability of small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans to obtain capital and credit and to access markets.

“(2) Promote the collection of business information and survey data as they relate to veterans and small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans.

“(3) Monitor and promote plans, programs, and operations of the departments and agencies of the United States that may contribute to the formation and growth of small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans.

“(4) Develop and promote initiatives, policies, programs, and plans designed to foster small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans.

“(5) Develop a comprehensive plan, to be updated annually, for joint public-private sector efforts to facilitate growth and development of small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans.

“(d) POWERS.—

“(1) HEARINGS.—Subject to subsection (e), the Committee may hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Committee considers advisable to carry out its duties.

“(2) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Upon request of the Chairperson of the Committee, the head of any department or agency of the United States shall furnish such information to the Committee as the Committee considers to be necessary to carry out its duties.

“(3) USE OF MAILS.—The Committee may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

“(4) GIFTS.—The Committee may accept, use, and dispose of gifts or donations of services or property.

“(e) MEETINGS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall meet, not less than three times per year, at the call of the Chairperson or at the request of the Administrator.

“(2) LOCATION.—Each meeting of the full Committee shall be held at the headquarters of the Small Business Administration located in Washington, District of Columbia. The Administrator shall provide suitable meeting facilities and such administrative support as may be necessary for each full meeting of the Committee.

“(3) TASK GROUPS.—The Committee may, from time-to-time, establish temporary task groups as may be necessary in order to carry out its duties.

“(f) COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES.—

“(1) NO COMPENSATION.—Members of the Committee shall serve without compensation for their service to the Committee.

“(2) EXPENSES.—The members of the Committee shall be reimbursed for travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

“(g) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this section [Aug. 17, 1999], the Committee shall transmit to the Congress and the President a report describing the activities of the Committee and any recommendations developed by the Committee for the promotion of small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans.”

SCORE PROGRAM

Pub. L. 106-50, title III, §301, Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 242, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Service Core [probably should be “Corps”] of Retired Executives (described in section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)) and in this section referred to as “SCORE”) to provide for the following:

“(1) The appointment by SCORE in its national office of an individual to act as National Veterans Business Coordinator, whose duties shall relate exclusively to veterans business matters, and who shall be responsible for the establishment and administration of a program to coordinate counseling and training regarding entrepreneurship to veterans through the chapters of SCORE throughout the United States.

“(2) The assistance of SCORE in the [sic] establishing and maintaining a toll-free telephone number and an Internet website to provide access for veterans to information about the counseling and training regarding entrepreneurship available to veterans through SCORE.

“(3) The collection of statistics concerning services provided by SCORE to veterans, including service-disabled veterans, for inclusion in each annual report published by the Administrator under section 4(b)(2)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 633(b)(2)(B)).

“(b) RESOURCES.—The Administrator shall provide to SCORE such resources as the Administrator determines necessary for SCORE to carry out the requirements of the memorandum of understanding specified in paragraph (1).”

ENTREPRENEURIAL ASSISTANCE

Pub. L. 106-50, title III, §302, Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 242, provided that: “Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 17, 1999], the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and the head of the association formed pursuant to section 21(a)(3)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)(A)) shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with respect to entrepreneurial assistance to veterans, including service-disabled veterans, through Small Business Development Centers (described in section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648)) and facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such assistance shall include the following:

“(1) Conducting of studies and research, and the distribution of information generated by such studies and research, on the formation, management, financing, marketing, and operation of small business concerns by veterans.

“(2) Provision of training and counseling to veterans concerning the formation, management, financing, marketing, and operation of small business concerns.

“(3) Provision of management and technical assistance to the owners and operators of small business concerns regarding international markets, the promotion of exports, and the transfer of technology.

“(4) Provision of assistance and information to veterans regarding procurement opportunities with Federal, State, and local agencies, especially such agencies funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

“(5) Establishment of an information clearinghouse to collect and distribute information, including by electronic means, on the assistance programs of Federal, State, and local governments, and of the private sector, including information on office locations, key personnel, telephone numbers, mail and electronic addresses, and contracting and subcontracting opportunities.

“(6) Provision of Internet or other distance learning academic instruction for veterans in business subjects, including accounting, marketing, and business fundamentals.”

“(7) Compilation of a list of small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans that provide products or services that could be procured by the United States and delivery of such list to each department and agency of the United States. Such list shall be delivered in hard copy and electronic form and shall include the name and address of each such small business concern and the products or services that it provides.”

ANNUAL REPORT OF ADMINISTRATOR

Pub. L. 106-50, title VI, §603, Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 248, provided that: “The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall transmit annually to the Committees on Small Business and Veterans Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate [Committee on Small Business of Senate now Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of Senate] a report on the needs of small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, which shall include information on—

“(1) the availability of Small Business Administration programs for such small business concerns and the degree of utilization of such programs by such small business concerns during the preceding 12-month period, including statistical information on such utilization as compared to the small business community as a whole;

“(2) the percentage and dollar value of Federal contracts awarded to such small business concerns during the preceding 12-month period, based on the data collected pursuant to section 604(d) [set out below]; and

“(3) proposals to improve the access of such small business concerns to the assistance made available by the United States.”

DATA AND INFORMATION COLLECTION

Pub. L. 106-50, title VI, §604, Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 249, provided that:

“(a) INFORMATION ON FEDERAL PROCUREMENT PRACTICES.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall, for each fiscal year—

“(1) collect information concerning the procurement practices and procedures of each department and agency of the United States having procurement authority;

“(2) publish and disseminate such information to procurement officers in all Federal agencies; and

“(3) make such information available to any small business concern requesting such information.

“(b) IDENTIFICATION OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS OWNED BY ELIGIBLE VETERANS.—Each fiscal year, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, identify small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans in the United States. The Secretary shall inform each small business concern identified under this paragraph that information on Federal procurement is available from the Administrator.

“(c) SELF-EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.—The Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall enter into a memorandum of understanding to provide for coordination of vocational rehabilitation services, technical and managerial assistance, and financial assistance to veterans, including service-disabled veterans, seeking to employ themselves by forming or expanding small business concerns. The memorandum of understanding shall include recommendations for expanding existing programs or establishing new programs to provide such services or assistance to such veterans.

“(d) DATA COLLECTION REQUIRED.—The Federal Procurement Data System described in section 6(d)(4)(A) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act ([former]

41 U.S.C. 405(d)(4)(A)) [now 41 U.S.C. 1122(a)(4)(A)] shall be modified to collect data regarding the percentage and dollar value of prime contracts and subcontracts awarded to small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.”

DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 106-50, title I, §103(b), Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 235, provided that: “In this Act [see Short Title of 1999 Amendments note set out under section 631 of this title], the definitions contained in section 3(q) of the Small Business Act [15 U.S.C. 632(q)], as added by this section, apply.”

Executive Documents

EX. ORD. NO. 13540. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Ex. Ord. No. 13540, Apr. 26, 2010, 75 F.R. 22497, provided:

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 102 of title I of the Military Reservist and Veteran Small Business Reauthorization and Opportunity Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-186) (the “Act”), and in order to establish an interagency task force to coordinate the efforts of Federal agencies to improve capital, business development opportunities, and pre-established Federal contracting goals for small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and service-disabled veterans, it is hereby ordered as follows:

SECTION 1. *Establishment.* The Administrator of the Small Business Administration (Administrator) shall establish within the Small Business Administration an Interagency Task Force on Veterans Small Business Development (Task Force).

SEC. 2. *Membership.* The Administrator shall serve as Chair of the Task Force and shall direct its work. Other members shall consist of:

(a) a senior level representative, designated by the head of the respective department or agency, from each of the following:

(i) the Department of the Treasury;

(ii) the Department of Defense;

(iii) the Department of Labor;

(iv) the Department of Veterans Affairs;

(v) the Office of Management and Budget;

(vi) the Small Business Administration (in addition to the Administrator); and

(vii) the General Services Administration; and

(b) four representatives from a veterans' service or military organization or association, who shall be appointed by the Administrator.

SEC. 3. *Functions.* Consistent with the Act and other applicable law, the Task Force shall:

(a) consult regularly with veterans service and military organizations in performing the duties of the Task Force;

(b) coordinate administrative and regulatory activities and develop proposals relating to:

(i) improving capital access and capacity of small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and service-disabled veterans through loans, surety bonding, and franchising;

(ii) ensuring achievement of the pre-established Federal contracting goals for small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and service-disabled veterans through expanded mentor-protégé assistance and matching such small business concerns with contracting opportunities;

(iii) increasing the integrity of certifications of status as a small business concern owned and controlled by a veteran or service-disabled veteran;

(iv) reducing paperwork and administrative burdens on veterans in accessing business development and entrepreneurship opportunities;

(v) increasing and improving training and counseling services provided to small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans; and

(vi) making other improvements relating to the support for veterans business development by the Federal Government; and

(c) not later than 1 year after its first meeting and annually thereafter, forward to the President a report on the performance of its functions, including any proposals developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

SEC. 4. *General Provisions.* (a) The Small Business Administration shall provide funding and administrative support for the Task Force to the extent permitted by law and within existing appropriations.

(b) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise effect [sic]:

(i) authority granted by law to an executive department, agency, or the head thereof; and

(ii) functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(c) Insofar as the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended ([former] 5 U.S.C. App.) [see 5 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.] (FACA), may apply to the Task Force, any functions of the President under the FACA, except for those in section 6 of the FACA, shall be performed by the Administrator in accordance with guidelines issued by the Administrator of General Services.

(d) This order is not intended to and does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

BARACK OBAMA.

EXTENSION OF TERM OF INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON
VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Term of Interagency Task Force on Veterans Small Business Development extended until Sept. 30, 2025, by Ex. Ord. No. 14109, Sept. 29, 2023, 88 F.R. 68447, set out as a note under section 1013 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

Previous extensions of term of Interagency Task Force on Veterans Small Business Development were contained in the following prior Executive Orders:

Ex. Ord. No. 14048, Sept. 30, 2021, 86 F.R. 55465, extended term until Sept. 30, 2023.

Ex. Ord. No. 13889, Sept. 27, 2019, 84 F.R. 52743, extended term until Sept. 30, 2021.

Ex. Ord. No. 13811, Sept. 29, 2017, 82 F.R. 46363, extended term until Sept. 30, 2019.

Ex. Ord. No. 13708, Sept. 30, 2015, 80 F.R. 60271, extended term until Sept. 30, 2017.

Ex. Ord. No. 13652, Sept. 30, 2013, 78 F.R. 61817, extended term until Sept. 30, 2015.

Ex. Ord. No. 13591, Nov. 23, 2011, 76 F.R. 74623, extended term until Sept. 30, 2013.

**§ 657c. Repealed. Pub. L. 112–239, div. A, title XVI,
§ 1699(a), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 2092**

Section, Pub. L. 85–536, §2[33], as added Pub. L. 106–50, title II, §202(a), Aug. 17, 1999, 113 Stat. 236; amended Pub. L. 106–554, §1(a)(9) [title VIII, §808], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A–706; Pub. L. 108–447, div. B, title VI, §636, div. K, title I, §§143(a), 146, Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 2922, 3455; Pub. L. 110–186, title I, §103(a), Feb. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 625, established the National Veterans Business Development Corporation.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

REPRESENTATION OF AUTHORIZATION

Pub. L. 112–239, div. A, title XVI, §1699(b), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 2092, provided that: “On and after the date of enactment of this Act [Jan. 2, 2013], the National Veterans Business Development Corporation and any successor thereto may not represent that the corporation is federally chartered or in any other manner authorized by the Federal Government.”

§ 657d. Federal and State Technology Partnership Program

(a) Definitions

In this section and section 657e of this title, the following definitions apply:

(1) Applicant

The term “applicant” means an entity, organization, or individual that submits a proposal for an award or a cooperative agreement under this section.

(2) Business advice and counseling

The term “business advice and counseling” means providing advice and assistance on matters described in section 657e(c)(2)(B) of this title to small business concerns to guide them through the SBIR and STTR program process, from application to award and successful completion of each phase of the program.

(3) Catastrophic incident

The term “catastrophic incident” means a major disaster that is comparable to the description of a catastrophic incident in the National Response Plan of the Administration, or any successor thereto.

(4) FAST program

The term “FAST program” means the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program established under this section.

(5) Mentor

The term “mentor” means an individual described in section 657e(c)(2) of this title.

(6) Mentoring Network

The term “Mentoring Network” means an association, organization, coalition, or other entity (including an individual) that meets the requirements of section 657e(c) of this title.

(7) Recipient

The term “recipient” means a person that receives an award or becomes party to a cooperative agreement under this section.

(8) SBIR program

The term “SBIR program” has the same meaning as in section 638(e)(4) of this title.

(9) State

The term “State” means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(10) STTR program

The term “STTR program” has the same meaning as in section 638(e)(6) of this title.

(b) Establishment of Program

The Administrator shall establish a program to be known as the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program, the purpose of which shall be to strengthen the technological competitiveness of small business concerns in the States.

(c) Grants and cooperative agreements

(1) Joint review

In carrying out the FAST program under this section, the Administrator and the SBIR