

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4078

To increase funding for the Women's Business Center Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 18, 1998

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mr. GOODE, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. HINOJOSA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To increase funding for the Women's Business Center Program.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Women's Small Busi-
5 ness Expansion Act of 1998".

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Women are changing the face of America's
9 economy. Women-owned businesses are increasing in
10 number, range, diversity and earning power. As

1 women business owners expand their companies,
2 they contribute to the economic success of our na-
3 tional economy.

4 (2) In 1996, nearly 8 million women-owned
5 businesses in the United States employed over 18.5
6 million people and generated close to \$2.3 trillion in
7 sales.

8 (3) 13 percent of women-owned businesses in
9 the United States are owned by minority women; the
10 1,067,000 minority women-owned firms employ
11 1,694,300 people and generate \$184.2 billion in
12 sales.

13 (4) There is a need to increase the authoriza-
14 tion level for the women's business centers because
15 they are the only organizations nationally that focus
16 exclusively on entrepreneurial training programs for
17 women.

18 (5) Increased funding would allow for new cen-
19 ters and subcenters to be established, and continued
20 funding for existing centers, including the on-line
21 women's business center.

22 (6) Increased funding will ensure that the
23 Small Business Administration achieves the goal of
24 establishing and sustaining at least one women's
25 business center in each State.

1 **SEC. 3. INCREASE IN AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-**
2 **TIONS FOR THE WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER**
3 **PROGRAM.**

4 Section 29(k)(1) of the Small Business Act (15
5 U.S.C. 656(k)(1) is amended by striking “8,000,000” and
6 inserting “9,000,000”.

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