

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2243

To reauthorize certain programs of the Small Business Administration, and
for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 9, 2000

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. CLELAND, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. ABRAHAM, and Mr. JEFFORDS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To reauthorize certain programs of the Small Business
Administration, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Women’s
5 Business Council Reauthorization Act of 2000”.

6 **SEC. 2. DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL.**

7 Section 406 of the Women’s Business Ownership Act
8 of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended to read as fol-
9 lows:

1 **“SEC. 406. DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall—

3 “(1) provide advice and counsel to the Presi-
4 dent and to the Congress on economic matters of
5 importance to women business owners;

6 “(2) promote initiatives designed to increase ac-
7 cess to capital and to markets, training and tech-
8 nical assistance, research, resources, and leadership
9 opportunities for and about women business owners;

10 “(3) provide a source of information and a cat-
11 alyst for action to support women’s business devel-
12 opment;

13 “(4) promote the implementation of the policy
14 agenda, initiatives and recommendations issued at
15 Summit ’98, the National Women’s Economic
16 Forum;

17 “(5) review, coordinate, and monitor plans and
18 programs developed in the public and private sectors
19 that affect the ability of women-owned small busi-
20 ness concerns to obtain capital and credit;

21 “(6) work with—

22 “(A) the Federal agencies for the purpose
23 of assisting them in meeting the 5 percent
24 women’s procurement goal established under
25 section 15(g) of the Small Business Act; and

1 “(B) the private sector in increasing con-
2 tracting opportunities for women-owned small
3 business concerns;

4 “(7) promote and assist in the development of
5 a women’s business census and other statistical sur-
6 veys of women-owned small business concerns;

7 “(8) support new and ongoing research on
8 women-owned small business concerns;

9 “(9) monitor and promote the plans, programs,
10 and operations of the departments and agencies of
11 the Federal Government that may contribute to the
12 establishment and growth of women’s business en-
13 terprise;

14 “(10) develop and promote new initiatives, poli-
15 cies, programs, and plans designed to foster women’s
16 business enterprise; and

17 “(11) advise and consult with State and local
18 leaders to develop and implement programs and poli-
19 cies that promote women’s business ownership.

20 “(b) INTERACTION WITH THE INTERAGENCY COM-
21 MITTEE ON WOMEN’S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE.—The
22 Council shall—

23 “(1) advise the Interagency Committee on
24 Women’s Business Enterprise (in this section re-
25 ferred to as the ‘Committee’) on matters relating to

1 the activities, functions, and policies of the Com-
2 mittee, as provided in this title; and

3 “(2) meet jointly with the Committee at the dis-
4 cretion of the chairperson of the Council and the
5 chairperson of the Committee, but not less fre-
6 quently than biannually.

7 “(c) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet separately
8 at such times as the Council deems necessary. A majority
9 of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum
10 for the approval of recommendations or reports issued
11 pursuant to this section.

12 “(d) RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days
14 after the last day of each fiscal year, the Council
15 shall—

16 “(A) make recommendations for consider-
17 ation by the Committee; and

18 “(B) submit a report to the President, the
19 Committee, the Administrator, the Committee
20 on Small Business of the Senate, and the Com-
21 mittee on Small Business of the House of Rep-
22 resentatives, as described in paragraph (2).

23 “(2) CONTENTS OF REPORTS.—The reports re-
24 quired by paragraph (1) shall contain—

1 “(A) a detailed description of the activities
2 of the Council during the preceding fiscal year,
3 including a status report on the progress of the
4 Council toward meeting its duties under sub-
5 sections (a);

6 “(B) the findings, conclusions, and rec-
7 ommendations of the Council concerning; and

8 “(C) the recommendations of the Council
9 for such legislation and administrative actions
10 as the Council considers appropriate to promote
11 the development of small business concerns
12 owned and controlled by women.

13 “(e) SEPARATE SUBMISSIONS.—The Administrator
14 shall submit any additional, concurring, or dissenting
15 views or recommendations to the President, the Com-
16 mittee, and the Congress separately from any rec-
17 ommendations or report submitted by the Council under
18 this subsection.”.

19 **SEC. 3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL.**

20 Section 407 of the Women’s Business Ownership Act
21 of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended—

22 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “Not later”
23 and all that follows through “the President” and in-
24 serting “The President”;

25 (2) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) by striking “Not later” and all that
2 follows through “the Administrator” and insert-
3 ing “The Administrator”; and

4 (B) by striking “the Assistant Adminis-
5 trator of the Office of Women’s Business Own-
6 ership and”;

7 (3) in subsection (d), by striking “, except
8 that” and all that follows through the end of the
9 subsection and inserting a period; and

10 (4) in subsection (h), by striking “Not later”
11 and all that follows through “the Administrator”
12 and inserting “The Administrator”.

13 **SEC. 4. REPEAL OF PROCUREMENT PROJECT; STATE AND**
14 **LOCAL ECONOMIC NETWORKS.**

15 Section 409 of the Women’s Business Ownership Act
16 of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended to read as fol-
17 lows:

18 **“SEC. 409. STATE AND LOCAL ECONOMIC NETWORKS.**

19 “The Council shall work with State and local officials
20 and business leaders to develop the infrastructure for
21 women’s business enterprise for the purpose of increasing
22 women’s effectiveness in shaping the economic agendas of
23 their States and communities.”.

1 **SEC. 5. STUDIES AND OTHER RESEARCH.**

2 Section 410 of the Women’s Business Ownership Act
3 of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended to read as fol-
4 lows:

5 **“SEC. 410. STUDIES, OTHER RESEARCH, AND ISSUE INITIA-**
6 **TIVES.**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

8 “(1) AUTHORITY.—The Council may, as it de-
9 termines to be appropriate, conduct such studies, re-
10 search, and issue initiatives relating to—

11 “(A) the award of Federal, State, local,
12 and private sector prime contracts and sub-
13 contracts to women-owned businesses; and

14 “(B) access to credit and investment cap-
15 ital by women entrepreneurs, and business de-
16 velopment assistance programs, including the
17 identification of best practices.

18 “(2) PURPOSES.—Studies, research, and issue
19 initiatives may be conducted under paragraph (1)
20 for purposes including—

21 “(A) identification of several focused out-
22 reach initiatives in nontraditional industry sec-
23 tors for the purpose of increasing contract
24 awards to women in those areas;

1 “(B) supporting the growth and prolifera-
2 tion of programs designed to prepare women to
3 successfully access the equity capital markets;

4 “(C) continuing to identify and report on
5 financial best practices that have worked to in-
6 crease credit and capital availability to women
7 business owners; and

8 “(D) working with Women’s Business Cen-
9 ters to develop programs and coordinate activi-
10 ties.

11 “(b) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—In conducting any
12 study or other research under this section, the Council
13 may contract with 1 or more public or private entities.”.

14 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

15 Section 411 of the Women’s Business Ownership Act
16 of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended to read as fol-
17 lows:

18 **“SEC. 411. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appro-
20 priated to carry out this title \$1,000,000, for each of fiscal
21 years 2001 through 2003, of which \$550,000 shall be
22 available in each such fiscal year to carry out sections 409
23 and 410.

24 “(b) BUDGET REVIEW.—No amount made available
25 under this section for any fiscal year may be obligated or

1 expended by the Council before the date on which the
2 Council reviews and approves the operating budget of the
3 Council to carry out the responsibilities of the Council for
4 that fiscal year.”.

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