

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 207

To amend the Small Business Act to provide for improvements to small business development centers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 8, 2015

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to provide for improvements to small business development centers.

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 “Small Business Devel-
5 opment Centers Improvement Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. USE OF AUTHORIZED ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVEL-**
7 **OPMENT PROGRAMS.**

8 The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is
9 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 48. USE OF AUTHORIZED ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVEL-**
2 **OPMENT PROGRAMS.**

3 “(a) EXPANDED SUPPORT FOR ENTREPRENEURS.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
5 provision of law, the Administrator shall only use
6 the programs authorized in sections 7(j), 7(m), 8(a),
7 8(b)(1), 21, 22, 29, and 32 of this Act, and sections
8 358 and 389 of the Small Business Investment Act
9 to deliver entrepreneurial development services, en-
10 trepreneurial education, business incubation services,
11 growth acceleration services, support for the develop-
12 ment and maintenance of clusters, or business train-
13 ing.

14 “(2) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply
15 to services provided to assist small business concerns
16 owned by an Indian tribe (as such term is defined
17 in section 8(a)(13)).

18 “(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—Beginning on the first De-
19 cember 1 after the date of enactment of this subsection,
20 the Administrator shall annually report to the Committee
21 on Small Business of the House of Representatives and
22 the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
23 of the Senate on all entrepreneurial development activities
24 undertaken in the current fiscal year. This report shall
25 include—

1 “(1) a description and operating details for
2 each program and activity;

3 “(2) operating circulars, manuals, and standard
4 operating procedures for each program and activity;

5 “(3) a description of the process used to award
6 grants under each program and activity;

7 “(4) a list of all awardees, contractors, and ven-
8 dors (including organization name and location) and
9 the amount of awards for the current fiscal year for
10 each program and activity;

11 “(5) the amount of funding obligated for the
12 current fiscal year for each program and activity;
13 and

14 “(6) the names and titles for those individuals
15 responsible for each program and activity.”.

16 **SEC. 3. MARKETING OF SERVICES.**

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

19 “(o) NO PROHIBITION OF MARKETING OF SERV-
20 ICES.—The Administrator shall not prohibit applicants re-
21 ceiving grants under this section from marketing and ad-
22 vertising their services to individuals and small busi-
23 nesses.”.

1 **SEC. 4. DATA COLLECTION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 21(a)(3)(A) of the Small
3 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)(A)) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “as provided in this section
5 and” and inserting “as provided in this section,”;
6 and

7 (2) by inserting before the period at the end the
8 following: “, and (iv) governing data collection ac-
9 tivities related to applicants receiving grants under
10 this section”.

11 (b) ANNUAL REPORT ON DATA COLLECTION.—Sec-
12 tion 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648), as
13 amended by section 3 of this Act, is further amended by
14 adding at the end the following:

15 “(p) ANNUAL REPORT ON DATA COLLECTION.—The
16 Administrator shall report annually to the Committee on
17 Small Business of the House of Representatives and the
18 Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of
19 the Senate on any data collection activities related to the
20 Small Business Development Center program.”.

21 **SEC. 5. FEES FROM PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND CO-**
22 **SPONSORSHIPS.**

23 Section 21(a)(3)(C) of the Small Business Act (15
24 U.S.C. 648(a)(3)(C)) is amended to read as follows:

25 “(C) Participation in private partnerships and
26 cosponsorships with the Administration shall not

1 limit small business development centers from col-
2 lecting fees or other income related to the operation
3 of such private partnerships and cosponsorships.”.

4 **SEC. 6. EQUITY FOR SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CEN-**
5 **TERS.**

6 Section 21(a)(4)(C)(v)(I) of the Small Business Act
7 (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(4)(C)(v)) is amended—

8 (1) in item (aa), by striking “; and” and insert-
9 ing a period; and

10 (2) by striking item (bb).

11 **SEC. 7. CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS.**

12 Section 21(a)(7)(A) of the Small Business Act (15
13 U.S.C. 648(a)(7)(A)) is amended by inserting after
14 “under this section” the following: “to any State, local or
15 Federal agency, or third party”.

16 **SEC. 8. LIMITATION ON AWARD OF GRANTS TO SMALL**
17 **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.**

18 Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
19 648), as amended by sections 3 and 4 of this Act, is fur-
20 ther amended by adding at the end the following:

21 “(q) LIMITATION ON AWARD OF GRANTS.—Except
22 for not-for-profit institutions of higher education, and not-
23 withstanding any provision of law, the Administrator may
24 not award grants (including contracts and cooperative
25 agreements) under this section to any entity other than

1 those that received grants (including contracts and cooper-
2 ative agreements) under this section prior to September
3 30, 2015, and that seek to renew such grants (including
4 contracts and cooperative agreements) after such date.”.

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