

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1000

To strengthen resources for entrepreneurs by improving the SCORE program,
and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 16, 2015

Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. COONS) introduced the following bill; which
was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and En-
trepreneurship

A BILL

To strengthen resources for entrepreneurs by improving the
SCORE program, 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 “SCORE for Small
5 Business Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. SCORE REAUTHORIZATION.**

7 Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631
8 note) is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating subsection (j) as sub-
10 section (f); and

1 (2) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(g) SCORE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be
3 appropriated to the Administrator to carry out the
4 SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1) such sums
5 as are necessary for the Administrator to make grants or
6 enter into cooperative agreements in a total amount that
7 does not exceed \$10,500,000 in each of fiscal years 2016,
8 2017, and 2018.”.

9 **SEC. 3. SCORE PROGRAM.**

10 Section 8 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637)
11 is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(B), by striking “a Serv-
13 ice Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)” and in-
14 serting “the SCORE program described in sub-
15 section (c)”;

16 (2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the
17 following:

18 “(c) SCORE PROGRAM.—

19 “(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
20 ‘SCORE program’ means the SCORE program au-
21 thorized by subsection (b)(1)(B).

22 “(2) VOLUNTEERS.—A volunteer participating
23 in the SCORE program shall—

24 “(A) based on the business experience and
25 knowledge of the volunteer—

1 “(i) provide at no cost to individuals
2 who own, or aspire to own, small business
3 concerns personal counseling, mentoring,
4 and coaching relating to the process of
5 starting, expanding, managing, buying,
6 and selling a business; and

7 “(ii) facilitate low-cost education
8 workshops for individuals who own, or as-
9 pire to own, small business concerns; and

10 “(B) as appropriate, use tools, resources,
11 and expertise of other organizations to carry
12 out the SCORE program.

13 “(3) PLANS AND GOALS.—The Administrator,
14 in consultation with the SCORE Association, shall
15 ensure that the SCORE program and each chapter
16 of the SCORE program develop and implement
17 plans and goals to more effectively and efficiently
18 provide services to individuals in rural areas, eco-
19 nomically disadvantaged communities, and other tra-
20 ditionally underserved communities, including plans
21 for electronic initiatives, web-based initiatives, chap-
22 ter expansion, partnerships, and the development of
23 new skills by volunteers participating in the SCORE
24 program.

1 “(4) ANNUAL REPORT.—The SCORE Associa-
2 tion shall submit to the Administrator an annual re-
3 port that contains—

4 “(A) the number of individuals counseled
5 or trained under the SCORE program;

6 “(B) the number of hours of counseling
7 provided under the SCORE program; and

8 “(C) to the extent possible—

9 “(i) the number of small business con-
10 cerns formed with assistance from the
11 SCORE program;

12 “(ii) the number of small business
13 concerns expanded with assistance from
14 the SCORE program; and

15 “(iii) the number of jobs created with
16 assistance from the SCORE program.

17 “(5) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Neither the Adminis-
19 trator nor the SCORE Association may disclose
20 the name, address, or telephone number of any
21 individual or small business concern receiving
22 assistance from the SCORE Association with-
23 out the consent of such individual or small busi-
24 ness concern, unless—

1 “(i) the Administrator is ordered to
 2 make such a disclosure by a court in any
 3 civil or criminal enforcement action initi-
 4 ated by a Federal or State agency; or

5 “(ii) the Administrator determines
 6 such a disclosure to be necessary for the
 7 purpose of conducting a financial audit of
 8 the SCORE program, in which case disclo-
 9 sure shall be limited to the information
 10 necessary for the audit.

11 “(B) ADMINISTRATOR USE OF INFORMA-
 12 TION.—This paragraph shall not—

13 “(i) restrict the access of the Adminis-
 14 trator to program activity data; or

15 “(ii) prevent the Administrator from
 16 using client information to conduct client
 17 surveys.

18 “(C) REGULATIONS.—

19 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator
 20 shall issue regulations to establish stand-
 21 ards for—

22 “(I) disclosures with respect to
 23 financial audits under subparagraph
 24 (A)(ii); and

1 “(II) conducting client surveys,
 2 including standards for oversight of
 3 the surveys and for dissemination and
 4 use of client information.

5 “(ii) MAXIMUM PRIVACY PROTEC-
 6 TION.—The regulations issued under this
 7 subparagraph shall, to the extent prac-
 8 ticable, provide for the maximum amount
 9 of privacy protection.”.

10 **SEC. 4. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

11 (a) SMALL BUSINESS ACT.—The Small Business Act
 12 (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

13 (1) in section 7(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII) (15 U.S.C.
 14 636(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII)), by striking “Service Corps
 15 of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE pro-
 16 gram”; and

17 (2) in section 22 (15 U.S.C. 649)—

18 (A) in subsection (b)—

19 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking
 20 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and
 21 inserting “SCORE program”; and

22 (ii) in paragraph (3), by striking
 23 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and
 24 inserting “SCORE program”; and

1 (B) in subsection (c)(12), by striking
 2 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and in-
 3 serting “SCORE program”.

4 (b) OTHER LAWS.—

5 (1) Section 621 of the Children’s Health Insur-
 6 ance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (15
 7 U.S.C. 657p) is amended—

8 (A) in subsection (a), by striking para-
 9 graph (4) and inserting the following:

10 “(4) the term ‘SCORE program’ means the
 11 SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1)(B)
 12 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
 13 637(b)(1)(B));”; and

14 (B) in subsection (b)(4)(A)(iv), by striking
 15 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and in-
 16 serting “SCORE program”.

17 (2) Section 337(d)(2)(A) of the Energy Policy
 18 and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6307(d)(2)(A)) is
 19 amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Ex-
 20 ecutives (SCORE)” and inserting “SCORE pro-
 21 gram”.

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