

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Guard and Reserve Entrepreneurship Support Act”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF LOAN ASSISTANCE AND DEFERRAL ELIGIBILITY TO RESERVISTS BEYOND PERIODS OF MILITARY CONFLICT.

(a) **SMALL BUSINESS ACT AMENDMENTS.**—Section 7 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(3)—
(A) in subparagraph (A)—
(i) by striking clause (ii);
(ii) by redesignating clause (i) as clause (ii);
(iii) by inserting before clause (ii), as so redesignated, the following:

“(i) the term ‘active service’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(d)(3) of title 10, United States Code;”;

(iv) in clause (ii), as so redesignated, by adding “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “being ordered to active military duty during a period of military conflict” and inserting “being ordered to perform active service for a period of more than 30 consecutive days”;

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking “active duty” each place it appears and inserting “active service”; and

(D) in subparagraph (G)(ii)(II), by striking “active duty” and inserting “active service”; and

(2) in subsection (n)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “ACTIVE DUTY” and inserting “ACTIVE SERVICE”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (C);

(ii) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively;

(iii) by inserting before subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, the following:

“(A) **ACTIVE SERVICE.**—The term ‘active service’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(d)(3) of title 10, United States Code.”;

(iv) in subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, by striking “ordered to active duty during a period of military conflict” and inserting “ordered to perform active service for a period of more than 30 consecutive days”; and

(v) in subparagraph (D), by striking “active duty” each place it appears and inserting “active service”; and

(C) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “active duty” each place it appears and inserting “active service”.

(b) **APPLICABILITY.**—The amendments made by subsection (a)(1) shall apply to an economic injury suffered or likely to be suffered as the result of an essential employee being ordered to perform active service (as defined in section 101(d)(3) of title 10, United States Code) for a period of more than 30 consecutive days who is discharged or released from such active service on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) **SEMIANNUAL REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and semiannually thereafter, the President shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the number of loans made under the Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan program and the dollar volume of those loans. The report shall contain the subsidy rate of the disaster loan program as authorized under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) with the loans made under the Military Reservist Economic Injury Dis-

aster Loan program and without those loans included.

(d) **TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 8(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “The Administration” and inserting the following:

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administration”;

(2) by striking “(as defined in section 7(n)(1))”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) **DEFINITION OF PERIOD OF MILITARY CONFLICT.**—In this subsection, the term ‘period of military conflict’ means—

“(A) a period of war declared by the Congress;

“(B) a period of national emergency declared by the Congress or by the President; or

“(C) a period of a contingency operation, as defined in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.”.

SEC. 3. NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT AND BUSINESS TRAINING PROGRAM.

(a) **EXPANSION OF SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OUTREACH PROGRAMS.**—Section 8(b)(17) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(17)) is amended by striking “and members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces” and inserting “members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces, and the spouses of veterans and members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces”.

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**—Section 32 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) **NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT AND BUSINESS TRAINING.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In making grants carried out under section 8(b)(17), the Associate Administrator shall establish a program, to be known as the ‘National Guard and Reserve Deployment Support and Business Training Program’, to provide training, counseling and other assistance to support members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces and their spouses.

“(2) **AUTHORITIES.**—In carrying out this subsection, the Associate Administrator may—

“(A) modify programs and resources made available through section 8(b)(17) to provide pre-deployment and other information specific to members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces and their spouses;

“(B) collaborate with the Chief of the National Guard Bureau or the Chief’s designee, State Adjutant Generals or their designees, and other public and private partners; and

“(C) provide training, information, and other resources to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau or the Chief’s designee and State Adjutant Generals or their designees for the purpose of supporting members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces and the spouses of veterans and members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces.”.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask unanimous consent that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS
ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2018

Mr. CORNYN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 633, S. 2679.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2679) to provide access to and manage the distribution of excess or surplus property to veteran-owned small businesses.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to, and that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to as follows:

S. 2679

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Small Business Enhancement Act of 2018”.

SEC. 2. ACCESS TO SURPLUS PROPERTY FOR VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES.

Section 32 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(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, United States Code; and

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

“(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, United States Code, to small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans (as verified by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under section 8127 of title 38, United States Code) 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, United States Code.”.

The bill, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. CORNYN. I know of no further debate on the bill, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 2679), as amended, was passed.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPURRING BUSINESS IN
COMMUNITIES ACT OF 2017

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar 402, H.R. 4111.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4111) to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the number of small business investment companies in underlicensed States, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. CORNYN. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall it pass?

The bill (H.R. 4111) was passed.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume executive session to consider the McNamee nomination as under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Oklahoma.

REMEMBERING GEORGE H.W. BUSH

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, as our Nation paused just for a little while this week to remember the 41st President of the United States and to honor his legacy and his life, I think it is important that we also pause here in the Senate Chamber, and, quite frankly, I bring that same sense of respect from my State of Oklahoma.

President Bush was widely known as our President. Quite frankly, one of the legacies I think he will leave the longest tale on is his commitment to faith and family. His compassion for people ran throughout his lifetime.

The conversation during the funeral yesterday in Washington, DC—and it is happening right now in Houston—centered significantly around his relationship with his beautiful wife Barbara. Seventy-three years of marriage is quite a legacy, and it is rare in America. It was a gift to America to see that kind of example set in front of us; it is that kind of commitment to their family and to each other.

They met each other at a dance in Greenwich, CT, in 1941, when he was a 17-year-old high school senior and she was 16, and they went out to dance together with Glenn Miller songs playing. Tell me that is not a throwback to a different time and a different age.

They were engaged in 1943 at the height of the war. During that same

time period, he was engaged in working with the United States to protect our country during World War II. He served as one of the youngest fighter pilots—the youngest during that time period.

Some of his letters have survived, and much has been said about what a prolific, personal writer President Bush was in his own life. The letters he wrote to Barbara during that 1943 time period have survived, including a letter he wrote to her on December 12, 1943, when they were still engaged. He said:

My darling . . . Bar, you have made my life full of everything I could ever dream of—my complete happiness should be a token of my love for you.

Who writes like that, other than a man who is a great personal example to the Nation?

They were married on January 6, 1945, and had six children. They were the longest married Presidential couple, married 73 years. In 1994, Barbara Bush described herself and her husband in her memoirs as “the two luckiest people in the world, and when all the dust is settled and all the crowds are gone, the things that matter are faith, family and friends. We have been inordinately blessed, and we know that.”

In 1994, that same year—he is still writing her decades later—he wrote her on their anniversary with this note:

Will you marry me? Oops, I forgot you did that 49 years ago today. I was very happy on that day in 1945. I'm even happier today. You've given me joy that few men know. I've climbed perhaps the highest mountain in the world, but even that cannot hold a candle to being Barbara's husband.

Their love story didn't come without some challenges, though. Barbara was open about her struggle with depression in the 1970s. She described those times, saying this:

Night after night, George held me weeping in his arms while I tried to explain my feelings. I almost wonder why he didn't leave me.

But he didn't.

In 1953, their daughter Robin died of leukemia before her fourth birthday. The family struggled significantly with that. In fact, even President Bush 43 referenced it yesterday at the funeral here in Washington, DC, but George Bush wrote about it during that time period as well. He wrote about the loss of their daughter Robin, who died at 3 years old. He wrote to Barbara:

There is about our house a need. . . . We need some soft blond hair to offset those crew cuts. We need a doll house to stand firm against our forts and racquets and thousand baseball cards.

We need someone who's afraid of frogs. . . . We need a little one who can kiss without leaving an egg or jam or gum.

We need a girl.

We had one once—she'd fight and cry and play and make her way, just like the rest. But there was about her a certain softness.

She was patient—her hugs were just a little less wiggly.

But she is still with us. We need her and yet we have her. We can't touch her, and yet we can feel her.

We hope she'll stay in our house for a long, long time.

In 1953, even in times of personal struggle, their love for each other and their tenacious compassion and passion for their family carried them through.

George Bush was at his wife's side when she died earlier this year, on April 12, at age 92.

On George Bush's 18th birthday, he enlisted in the Armed Forces. As I mentioned before, he was the youngest pilot in the Navy when he received his wings. He flew 58 combat missions during World War II.

He served two terms as a Representative to Congress from Texas and ran unsuccessfully for the Senate—though his dad's desk, when he was in the Senate, was right there when he was a U.S. Senator.

President Bush served as the Chief Diplomatic Envoy in China, even before the United States had formally opened the official Beijing Embassy.

He became the 11th Director of the Central Intelligence Agency—which was, at that time, called the DCI—from 1976 to 1977. He is the only President who previously held that position. Interesting enough, many people don't know that the CIA headquarters in Langley are actually named for President Bush and have been that way for a long time.

It was an interesting season when he was the leader of the CIA in the 1970s. There was a lot of mistrust between U.S. citizens and Central Intelligence. At that time, President Bush did something exceptional as the Director of Central Intelligence. He actually provided transparency—a radical idea—where he would come to the Hill and invite Members of the House and the Senate to his house, and they would have informal dinners to talk about what they were doing. He came to the Hill 51 times to testify before the House and the Senate, a record that is still unsurpassed by any Director of National Intelligence. It is a remarkable record of transparency and of leadership.

In 1980, he campaigned for the Presidency but lost. Then he was tapped by the President he lost to in the primary, a gentleman named Ronald Reagan, to be his Vice President. Interestingly enough, at 50 years old, which I am today, the first President I really remember watching was President Reagan—and Vice President Bush—to see how they handled things. It was remarkable leadership during that time period.

In 1988, he won the Republican nomination for President and then became President—the first President I ever had the opportunity to vote for. At that time, I was 20 years old. So for my first time ever to vote for President, I had the privilege to vote for President Bush and the honor to sit in the Cathedral yesterday to recognize his life.

He was a remarkable President for being a one-term President—pushing back the Sandinistas who were ravaging Nicaragua; transitioning Europe out of the Cold War; finishing the Cold