

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5065

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 9, 2020

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and
Entrepreneurship

AN ACT

To amend the Small Business Act to provide re-entry entrepreneurship counseling and training services for formerly incarcerated individuals, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Prison to Proprietor-
3 ship for Formerly Incarcerated Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. RE-ENTRY ENTREPRENEURSHIP COUNSELING AND**
5 **TRAINING FOR FORMERLY INCARCERATED**
6 **INDIVIDUALS.**

7 The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is
8 amended—

9 (1) by redesignating section 49 as section 50;

10 and

11 (2) by inserting after section 48 the following
12 new section:

13 **“SEC. 49. RE-ENTRY ENTREPRENEURSHIP COUNSELING**
14 **AND TRAINING FOR FORMERLY INCARCER-**
15 **ATED INDIVIDUALS.**

16 “(a) **SERVICES REQUIRED.**—The Administrator, in
17 coordination with the Director of the Bureau of Prisons,
18 shall require the Service Corps of Retired Executives to
19 provide entrepreneurship counseling and training services
20 to individuals formerly incarcerated in a Federal prison
21 (hereinafter referred to as ‘covered individuals’) on a na-
22 tionwide basis.

23 “(b) **GOALS.**—The goal of the services provided under
24 this section is to provide covered individuals with the fol-
25 lowing:

1 “(1) Mentoring, workshops, and instructional
2 videos designed specifically for covered individuals
3 on how to start or expand a small business concern.

4 “(2) Tools, skills, and knowledge necessary to
5 identify a business opportunity, including how to—

6 “(A) draft a skills profile, business plan,
7 and transition plan;

8 “(B) identify sources of capital; and

9 “(C) connect with local resources for small
10 business concerns.

11 “(c) **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.**—The services
12 provided under this section shall include—

13 “(1) regular individualized mentoring sessions,
14 to take place over the course of a year, to support
15 development of the business plans of covered individ-
16 uals and the growth of covered individuals as entre-
17 preneurs;

18 “(2) assistance with identifying of local re-
19 sources for small business concerns for covered indi-
20 viduals;

21 “(3) assistance with identifying sources of cap-
22 ital, and when appropriate, assistance with pre-
23 paring applications for loans and other funding op-
24 portunities; and

1 “(4) workshops on topics specifically tailored to
2 meet the needs of covered individuals.

3 “(d) SURVEY.—The Service Corps of Retired Execu-
4 tives shall survey covered individuals who received services
5 under this section to assess the satisfaction of such cov-
6 ered individuals with such services.

7 “(e) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
8 of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter,
9 the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small
10 Business of the House of Representatives and the Com-
11 mittee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the
12 Senate a report on the performance and effectiveness of
13 the services provided under this section, which may be in-
14 cluded as part of another report submitted to such com-
15 mittees by the Administrator, and which shall include—

16 “(1) the number of covered individuals
17 mentored under this section;

18 “(2) the number of hours of mentorship pro-
19 vided by the Service Corps of Retired Executives
20 under this section;

21 “(3) the demographics of covered individuals
22 who received services, including age, gender, race,
23 and ethnicity;

24 “(4) a summary and analysis of surveys con-
25 ducted under subsection (d); and

