

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1488

To establish the Native American Entrepreneurs Program to provide \$3,000,000 in grants annually to qualified organizations to provide training and technical assistance to disadvantaged Native American entrepreneurs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 29 (legislative day, JULY 21), 2003

Mr. BINGAMAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

A BILL

To establish the Native American Entrepreneurs Program to provide \$3,000,000 in grants annually to qualified organizations to provide training and technical assistance to disadvantaged Native American entrepreneurs.

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 “Native American En-
5 trepreneurs Act of 2003.”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIVE AMERICAN ENTREPRENEURS PROGRAM.**

2 Subtitle C of title I of the Riegle Community Devel-
3 opment and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 (15
4 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating section 181 as section 182;

6 and

7 (2) by striking section 180 and inserting the
8 following:

9 **“SEC. 180. NATIVE AMERICAN ENTREPRENEURS PROGRAM.**

10 “(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Administrator, through
11 the Office of Native American Affairs, shall establish a
12 Native American entrepreneurs program to provide grants
13 to qualified organizations to provide training and technical
14 assistance to disadvantaged Native American entre-
15 preneurs who are seeking to start their own small busi-
16 nesses.

17 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants provided under this
18 subsection shall be used to—

19 “(1) provide training and technical assistance
20 to low and very-low income Native American entre-
21 preneurs and prospective entrepreneurs; and

22 “(2) assist in the creation, development, and ex-
23 pansion of small business concerns owned by Native
24 Americans.

1 “(c) QUALIFIED ORGANIZATIONS.—For purposes of
2 eligibility for assistance under this subsection, a qualified
3 organization shall be—

4 “(1) a nonprofit microenterprise development
5 organization or program (or a group or collaborative
6 thereof) that has a demonstrated record of delivering
7 microenterprise services to Native American entre-
8 preneurs;

9 “(2) an intermediary;

10 “(3) a microenterprise development organiza-
11 tion or program that is accountable to an Indian
12 tribe; or

13 “(4) an Indian tribe acting on its own, if the
14 Indian tribe can certify that no private organization
15 or program referred to in paragraphs (1) through
16 (3) exists within its jurisdiction.

17 **“SEC. 181. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

18 “(a) MICROENTERPRISE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
19 AND CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT PROGRAM.—There are
20 authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator, to
21 carry out the microenterprise technical assistance and ca-
22 pacity building grant program established pursuant to sec-
23 tion 173, to remain available until expended—

24 “(1) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

25 “(2) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2005; and

1 “(3) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2006.

2 “(b) NATIVE AMERICAN ENTREPRENEURS PRO-
3 GRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the
4 Administrator, to carry out the Native American entre-
5 preneurs program established pursuant to section 180, to
6 remain available until expended—

7 “(1) \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

8 “(2) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2005; and

9 “(3) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2006.”.

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