

Union Calendar No. 115

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2366

[Report No. 110-194]

To reauthorize the veterans entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 17, 2007

Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SHULER, and Mr. CHABOT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

JUNE 15, 2007

Additional sponsors: Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. WYNN

JUNE 15, 2007

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To reauthorize the veterans entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
 5 “SBA Veterans’ Programs Act of 2007”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
 7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—OFFICE OF VETERANS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Sec. 101. Office of Veterans Business Development.

TITLE II—VETERANS ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES

Sec. 201. Veterans Assistance and Services program.

TITLE III—EXPANDING VETERANS BUSINESS OUTREACH
CENTERS

Sec. 301. Increasing the number of outreach centers.

Sec. 302. Independent study on gaps in availability of outreach centers.

8 **TITLE I—OFFICE OF VETERANS**
 9 **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

10 **SEC. 101. OFFICE OF VETERANS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT.**

11 Section 32 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
 12 657b) is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
 14 section (e); and

15 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
 16 lowing:

17 “(c) PARTICIPATION IN TAP WORKSHOPS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Associate Adminis-
 19 trator shall increase veteran outreach by ensuring

1 that Veteran Business Outreach Centers regularly
2 participate, on a nationwide basis, in the workshops
3 of the Transition Assistance Program of the Depart-
4 ment of Labor.

5 “(2) PRESENTATIONS.—In carrying out para-
6 graph (1), a Center may provide grants to eligible
7 entities located in Transition Assistance Program lo-
8 cations to make presentations on the opportunities
9 available from the Administration for recently sepa-
10 rating veterans. Each such presentation must in-
11 clude, at a minimum, the entrepreneurial and busi-
12 ness training resources available from the Adminis-
13 tration.

14 “(3) REPORTS.—The Associate Administrator
15 shall submit to Congress progress reports on the im-
16 plementation of this subsection.

17 “(d) WOMEN VETERANS BUSINESS TRAINING RE-
18 SOURCE PROGRAM.—The Associate Administrator shall
19 establish a Women Veterans Business Training Resource
20 Program. The program shall—

21 “(1) compile information on resources available
22 to women veterans for business training, including
23 resources for—

24 “(A) vocational and technical education;

1 “(B) general business skills, such as mar-
2 keting and accounting; and

3 “(C) business assistance programs targeted
4 to women veterans; and

5 “(2) disseminate the information through Vet-
6 eran Business Outreach Centers and women’s busi-
7 ness centers.”.

8 **TITLE II—VETERANS**
9 **ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES**

10 **SEC. 201. VETERANS ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES PRO-**
11 **GRAM.**

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

14 “(n) VETERANS ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES PRO-
15 GRAM.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A Small Business Develop-
17 ment Center may apply for an additional grant to
18 carry out a veterans assistance and services pro-
19 gram.

20 “(2) ELEMENTS OF PROGRAM.—Under a pro-
21 gram under paragraph (1), the Center shall—

22 “(A) create a marketing campaign to pro-
23 mote awareness and education of the services of
24 the Center that are available to veterans, and to
25 target the campaign toward veterans, disabled

1 veterans, military units, Federal agencies, and
2 veterans organizations;

3 “(B) use technology-assisted online coun-
4 seling and distance learning technology to over-
5 come the impediments to entrepreneurship
6 faced by veterans and members of the Armed
7 Forces; and

8 “(C) increase coordination among organi-
9 zations that assist veterans, including by estab-
10 lishing virtual integration of service providers
11 and offerings for a one-stop point of contact for
12 veterans who are entrepreneurs or small busi-
13 ness owners.

14 “(3) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—Each grant under
15 this subsection shall be for at least \$75,000.

16 “(4) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—A grant under this
17 subsection may not exceed \$250,000.

18 “(5) FUNDING.—Subject to amounts approved
19 in advance in appropriations Acts, the Administra-
20 tion may make grants or enter into cooperative
21 agreements to carry out the provisions of this sub-
22 section.”.

1 **TITLE III—EXPANDING VET-**
2 **ERANS BUSINESS OUTREACH**
3 **CENTERS**

4 **SEC. 301. INCREASING THE NUMBER OF OUTREACH CEN-**
5 **TERS.**

6 The Administrator of the Small Business Administra-
7 tion shall use the authority in section 8(b)(17) of the
8 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 647(b)) to ensure that the
9 number of Veterans Business Outreach Centers through-
10 out the United States increases—

11 (1) by at least 2, for each of fiscal years 2008
12 and 2009; and

13 (2) by the number that the Administrator con-
14 siders appropriate, based on existing need, for each
15 fiscal year thereafter.

16 **SEC. 302. INDEPENDENT STUDY ON GAPS IN AVAILABILITY**
17 **OF OUTREACH CENTERS.**

18 The Administrator of the Small Business Administra-
19 tion shall sponsor an independent study on gaps in the
20 availability of Veterans Business Outreach Centers across
21 the United States. The purpose of the study shall be to
22 identify the gaps that do exist so as to inform decisions
23 on funding and on the allocation and coordination of re-
24 sources. Not later than 6 months after the date of the

- 1 enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to
- 2 Congress a report on the results of the study.

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