

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. COONS) introduced the following bill; which  
was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**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 sserting “the SCORE program described in sub-  
15 section (c)”; and

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 (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”.