

S. 1229 THE ENTREPRENURIAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2009

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Short Title.

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TITLE I – REAUTHORIZATION

Section 101. Authorization of Appropriations

Reauthorizations: Reauthorizes the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) program, SCORE and the Paul Coverdell Drug-Free Workplace program for 2010, 2011, and 2012.

TITLE II – WOMEN’S SMALL BUSINESS OWNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Sec. 201. Office of Women's Business Ownership.

This section amends the Small Business Act by directing the SBA Office of Women's Business Ownership to develop new programs and services for established women-owned businesses. In addition, this provision requires the Office of Women's Business Ownership to consult with the associations representing the Women's Business Centers, the National Women's Business Council, and the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise. It also requires that training be provided for SBA District Office personnel responsible for carrying out Agency programs. Finally, this provision requires the Administration to improve the women's business center grant process and the programmatic and financial oversight process.

Sec. 202. Women's Business Center Program.

Reauthorizes the Women's Business Center (WBC) program for 2010, 2011, and 2012. Also recognizes the existence and activities of any association of women's business centers representing more than half of percent or more of the WBCs. Requires the SBA Administrator to consult with any association of WBCs to develop training for WBC and improvement for the WBC program. In addition, the bill clearly sets forth the process and criteria that the agency must follow in administering the women's business center grant program, and clarifies eligibility for participation in the program. It requires the SBA to disburse grants as quickly as possible and to provide justification if new WBCs are located within 50 miles of an existing WBC.

Sec. 203. National Women's Business Council.

Reauthorizes the National Women's Business Council for 2010, 2011, and 2012. Changes the Council's research allocation from \$550,000 to 30 percent of appropriated funds.

Sec. 203. Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise.

Provides an acting chairperson of the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise and establishes a Policy Advisory Group to assist the chairperson in developing policies and programs, and defines the composition of the Policy Advisory Group. The bill also provides operational direction for the Interagency Committee by requiring that the Interagency Committee conduct three official meetings each

year to plan upcoming Fiscal Year activities; track year-to-date agency contracting goals; and evaluate Fiscal Year progress and begin the report process.

Sec. 204. Preserving the independence of the National Women's Business Council.

Requires an equal number of members appointed to serve on the Council representing each of the two major political parties. This also requires that if a vacancy is not filled, or if there exists an imbalance of party-affiliated members on the Council, in a 30-day period, a report must be submitted to the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and House Committees on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Sec. 205 Study and report on Women's Business Centers.

TITLE III – NATIVE AMERICAN SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Sec. 301. Short title.

Sec. 302. Native American Small Business Development Program.

The bill codifies the Office of Native American Affairs, and outlines the qualifications and responsibilities of the Office and its head. Additionally, this section provides financial assistance to tribal governments, tribal colleges, and Alaska Native corporations to create Native American business centers. These centers shall conduct five-year projects that offer culturally tailored business development assistance. This program would be authorized at \$10 million per year for fiscal years 2010 through 2012.

Sec. 303. Office of Native American Affairs pilot program.

This section authorizes a two-year pilot program for the Office of Native American Affairs to develop and publish a self-assessment tool for evaluation and implementation of best practices for economic development for Indian tribes. The provision includes a reporting requirement on the effectiveness of the self-assessment tool. It also authorizes assistance in identifying economic development opportunities to Indian tribes through the Inter-Agency Working group, which is comprised of key federal agencies. The provision does not include nor require authorization of appropriations.

TITLE IV– VETERANS' BUSINESS CENTER PROGRAM

Sec. 401. Veterans' Business Center Program; Office of Veterans Business Development.

This section establishes a Veterans Business Center program within the Office of Veterans Business Development, to provide entrepreneurial training and counseling to veterans, service-disabled veterans, Reservists, their spouses and surviving spouses. This section authorizes financial assistance to be provided to private nonprofit organizations participating in this program so that they may be able to provide training and services set forth in this section. This section also provides selection criteria for receiving financial assistance through this program, as well as reporting requirements for private nonprofit organizations that are receiving financial assistance through this program. This section also directs certain coordination efforts between participating veterans' business centers and relevant SBA District Office personnel.

Additionally, this section authorizes the Office of Veterans Business Development (OVBD) to create an online mechanism through which the OVBD may provide information to assist veterans business centers in providing services set forth in this section, and for veterans' business centers to be able to distribute information and resource materials and communicate with each other regarding best practices. This section authorizes to be appropriated to carry out the veterans' business center program: \$8 million for fiscal year 2010; \$8.5 million for fiscal year 2011; and \$9 million for fiscal year 2012. Additionally, the bill calls for

\$2 million annually for the SBA's Office of Veterans Business Development for each of fiscal years 2010, through 2012.

Sec. 402. Reporting requirement for interagency task force

Requires a biannual report to Congress on appointments made to, progress, and actions items regarding the Task Force established under section 32(c) of the Small Business Act.

Sec. 403. Repeal and renewal of grants

Repeals previous grant language in the Small Business Act in recognition of the establishment of the new veterans' business center program. Provides that any private nonprofit receiving financial assistance through this program may apply for a renewal of that assistance.

TITLE V– PROGRAM FOR INVESTMENT IN MICROENTREPRENEURS

Sect. 501 PRIME Reauthorization and transfer to the Small Business Act

This subsection transfers the authorization of this program from the Riegle Act to the Small Business Act, clarifying that the program should be administered by the SBA through the Office of Entrepreneurial Development. Of the money designated for this program, which provides technical assistance to micro-entrepreneurs, the section authorizes additional funds to serve Native Americans. This section authorizes \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2012 to carry out this section, and authorizes \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2012 to serve Native Americans.

Sec. 502. Conforming repeal and amendments.

Sec. 503. References

Sec. 504. Rule of construction.

TITLE VI– OTHER PROVISIONS

Sec. 601. Institutions of higher education.

This provision requires SBDC grantees that are institutions of higher education to be accredited and grandfather any SBDC grantee institution of higher education that is not yet accredited but is seeking accreditation.

Sec. 602. Health insurance options information for small business concerns.

Establishes a grant program, to be administered through the Office of Entrepreneurial Development, providing financial assistance to resource partners to be able to provide neutral and objective information and educational materials regarding health insurance options, including coverage options within the small group market, to small business concerns. Additionally, this section requires a review of the effectiveness of this program within two years of disbursement of grants. This section authorizes \$5,000,000 for this program.

Sec. 603. National Small Business Development Center Advisory Board.

The bill adds one member to the National Small Business Development Center Advisory Board for a total of ten members, to ensure that all ten SBDC districts are represented on the board, and revises certain requirements for composition of the Advisory Board.

Sec. 604. Privacy requirements for SCORE chapters.

This provision extends the privacy protections afforded to SBDC clients to SCORE clients.

Sec. 605. National Small Business Summit.

Directs the President to convene a National Small Business Summit before December 31, 2012 to examine the present conditions and future of small businesses in the United States. The summit shall include small business owners, representatives of small business groups, labor, academia, nonprofit policy groups, and State and Federal governments. In addition, no later than 90 days after the summit, the President will release a report identifying key challenges and making recommendations for promoting entrepreneurship and the growth of small businesses.

Sec. 606. SCORE Program

This section amends the Small Business Act by replacing all references to the “Service Corps of Retired Executives” with “SCORE” as the official name of the program.