

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3543

To ensure that certain entrepreneurial development services of the Small Business Administration are made available to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 27, 2019

Mr. GOLDEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To ensure that certain entrepreneurial development services of the Small Business Administration are made available to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers, 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 “Ensuring Access to
5 Counseling and Training for All Small Businesses Act of
6 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS RELATING TO CANNABIS-RELATED**
2 **LEGITIMATE BUSINESSES AND SERVICE PRO-**
3 **VIDERS.**

4 Section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)
5 is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
6 section:

7 “(ff) DEFINITIONS RELATING TO CANNABIS-RE-
8 LATED LEGITIMATE BUSINESSES AND SERVICE PRO-
9 VIDERS.—In this Act:

10 “(1) CANNABIS.—The term ‘cannabis’ has the
11 meaning given the term ‘marihuana’ in section 102
12 of the Controlled Substances Act.

13 “(2) CANNABIS PRODUCT.—The term ‘cannabis
14 product’ means any article which contains cannabis,
15 including an article which is a concentrate, an edi-
16 ble, a tincture, a cannabis-infused product, or a top-
17 ical.

18 “(3) CANNABIS-RELATED LEGITIMATE BUSI-
19 NESS.—The term ‘cannabis-related legitimate busi-
20 ness’ means a manufacturer, producer, or any per-
21 son or company that is a small business concern and
22 that—

23 “(A) engages in any activity described in
24 subparagraph (B) pursuant to a law established
25 by a State or a political subdivision of a State,

1 as determined by such State or political subdivi-
2 sion; and

3 “(B) participates in any business or orga-
4 nized activity that involves handling cannabis or
5 cannabis products, including cultivating, pro-
6 ducing, manufacturing, selling, transporting,
7 displaying, dispensing, distributing, or pur-
8 chasing cannabis or cannabis products.

9 “(4) MANUFACTURER.—The term ‘manufac-
10 turer’ means a person who manufactures, com-
11 pounds, converts, processes, prepares, or packages
12 cannabis or cannabis products.

13 “(5) PRODUCER.—The term ‘producer’ means a
14 person who plants, cultivates, harvests, or in any
15 way facilitates the natural growth of cannabis.

16 “(6) SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term ‘service
17 provider’—

18 “(A) means a business, organization, or
19 other person that—

20 “(i) sells goods or services to a can-
21 nabis-related legitimate business; or

22 “(ii) provides any business services,
23 including the sale or lease of real or any
24 other property, legal or other licensed serv-

1 ices, or any other ancillary service, relating
2 to cannabis; and

3 “(B) does not include a business, organiza-
4 tion, or other person that participates in any
5 business or organized activity that involves han-
6 dling cannabis or cannabis products, including
7 cultivating, producing, manufacturing, selling,
8 transporting, displaying, dispensing, distrib-
9 uting, or purchasing cannabis or cannabis prod-
10 ucts.

11 “(7) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of
12 the several States, the District of Columbia, Puerto
13 Rico, and any territory or possession of the United
14 States.”.

15 **SEC. 3. ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR**
16 **CANNABIS-RELATED LEGITIMATE BUSI-**
17 **NESSES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS.**

18 (a) SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—
19 Section 21(c) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
20 648(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following new
21 paragraph:

22 “(9) SERVICES FOR CANNABIS-RELATED LE-
23 GITIMATE BUSINESSES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS.—
24 A small business development center may not decline
25 to provide services to an otherwise eligible small

1 business concern under this section solely because
2 such concern is a cannabis-related legitimate busi-
3 ness or service provider.”.

4 (b) WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTERS.—Section 29 of
5 the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656) is amended by
6 adding at the end the following new subsection:

7 “(p) SERVICES FOR CANNABIS-RELATED LEGITI-
8 MATE BUSINESSES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS.—A wom-
9 en’s business center may not decline to provide services
10 to an otherwise eligible small business concern under this
11 section solely because such concern is a cannabis-related
12 legitimate business or service provider.”.

13 (c) SCORE.—Section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Busi-
14 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B)) is amended by adding
15 at the end the following new sentence: “The head of the
16 SCORE program established under this subparagraph
17 may not decline to provide services to an otherwise eligible
18 small business concern solely because such concern is a
19 cannabis-related legitimate business or service provider.”.

20 (d) VETERAN BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS.—Sec-
21 tion 32 of the Small Business Act is amended (15 U.S.C.
22 657b) is amended by adding at the end the following new
23 subsection:

24 “(h) SERVICES FOR CANNABIS-RELATED LEGITI-
25 MATE BUSINESSES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS.—A Vet-

1 eran Business Outreach Center may not decline to provide
2 services to an otherwise eligible small business concern
3 under this section solely because such concern is a can-
4 nabis-related legitimate business or service provider.”.

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