

Calendar No. 110

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1000

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 16, 2015

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. COONS, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. UDALL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

JUNE 10, 2015

Reported by Mr. VITTER, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

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”.

1 **SEC. 2. SCORE REAUTHORIZATION.**

2 Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631
3 note) is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating subsection (j) as sub-
5 section (f); and

6 (2) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(g) SCORE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be
8 appropriated to the Administrator to carry out the
9 SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1) such sums
10 as are necessary for the Administrator to make grants or
11 enter into cooperative agreements in a total amount that
12 does not exceed \$10,500,000 in each of fiscal years 2016,
13 2017, and 2018.”.

14 **SEC. 3. SCORE PROGRAM.**

15 Section 8 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637)
16 is amended—

17 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(B), by striking “a Serv-
18 ice Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)” and in-
19 serting “the SCORE program described in sub-
20 section (e)”; and

21 (2) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the
22 following:

23 “(e) SCORE PROGRAM.—

24 “(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
25 ‘SCORE program’ means the SCORE program au-
26 thorized by subsection (b)(1)(B).

1 ~~“(2) VOLUNTEERS.—~~A volunteer participating
2 in the SCORE program shall—

3 ~~“(A) based on the business experience and~~
4 knowledge of the volunteer—

5 ~~“(i) provide at no cost to individuals~~
6 who own, or aspire to own, small business
7 concerns personal counseling, mentoring,
8 and coaching relating to the process of
9 starting, expanding, managing, buying,
10 and selling a business; and

11 ~~“(ii) facilitate low-cost education~~
12 workshops for individuals who own, or as-
13 pire to own, small business concerns; and

14 ~~“(B) as appropriate, use tools, resources,~~
15 and expertise of other organizations to carry
16 out the SCORE program.

17 ~~“(3) PLANS AND GOALS.—~~The Administrator,
18 in consultation with the SCORE Association, shall
19 ensure that the SCORE program and each chapter
20 of the SCORE program develop and implement
21 plans and goals to more effectively and efficiently
22 provide services to individuals in rural areas, eco-
23 nomically disadvantaged communities, and other tra-
24 ditionally underserved communities, including plans
25 for electronic initiatives, web-based initiatives, chap-

1 ter expansion, partnerships, and the development of
 2 new skills by volunteers participating in the SCORE
 3 program.

4 “(4) ANNUAL REPORT.—The SCORE Associa-
 5 tion shall submit to the Administrator an annual re-
 6 port that contains—

7 “(A) the number of individuals counseled
 8 or trained under the SCORE program;

9 “(B) the number of hours of counseling
 10 provided under the SCORE program; and

11 “(C) to the extent possible—

12 “(i) the number of small business con-
 13 cerns formed with assistance from the
 14 SCORE program;

15 “(ii) the number of small business
 16 concerns expanded with assistance from
 17 the SCORE program; and

18 “(iii) the number of jobs created with
 19 assistance from the SCORE program.

20 “(5) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Neither the Adminis-
 22 trator nor the SCORE Association may disclose
 23 the name, address, or telephone number of any
 24 individual or small business concern receiving
 25 assistance from the SCORE Association with-

1 out the consent of such individual or small busi-
2 ness concern, unless—

3 “(i) the Administrator is ordered to
4 make such a disclosure by a court in any
5 civil or criminal enforcement action initi-
6 ated by a Federal or State agency; or

7 “(ii) the Administrator determines
8 such a disclosure to be necessary for the
9 purpose of conducting a financial audit of
10 the SCORE program, in which case disclo-
11 sure shall be limited to the information
12 necessary for the audit.

13 “(B) ADMINISTRATOR USE OF INFORMA-
14 TION.—This paragraph shall not—

15 “(i) restrict the access of the Adminis-
16 trator to program activity data; or

17 “(ii) prevent the Administrator from
18 using client information to conduct client
19 surveys.

20 “(C) REGULATIONS.—

21 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator
22 shall issue regulations to establish stand-
23 ards for—

1 “(I) disclosures with respect to
2 financial audits under subparagraph
3 (A)(ii); and

4 “(II) conducting client surveys,
5 including standards for oversight of
6 the surveys and for dissemination and
7 use of client information.

8 “(ii) **MAXIMUM PRIVACY PROTEC-**
9 **TION.**—The regulations issued under this
10 subparagraph shall, to the extent prac-
11 ticable, provide for the maximum amount
12 of privacy protection.”.

13 **SEC. 4. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

14 (a) **SMALL BUSINESS ACT.**—The Small Business Act
15 (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

16 (1) in section 7(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII) (15 U.S.C.
17 636(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII)), by striking “Service Corps
18 of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE pro-
19 gram”; and

20 (2) in section 22 (15 U.S.C. 649)—

21 (A) in subsection (b)—

22 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking
23 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and
24 inserting “SCORE program”; and

1 (ii) in paragraph (3), by striking
 2 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and
 3 inserting “SCORE program”; and
 4 (B) in subsection (c)(12), by striking
 5 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and in-
 6 serting “SCORE program”.

7 (b) OTHER LAWS.—

8 (1) Section 621 of the Children’s Health Insur-
 9 ance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (15
 10 U.S.C. 657p) is amended—

11 (A) in subsection (a), by striking para-
 12 graph (4) and inserting the following:

13 “(4) the term ‘SCORE program’ means the
 14 SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1)(B)
 15 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
 16 637(b)(1)(B));” and

17 (B) in subsection (b)(4)(A)(iv), by striking
 18 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and in-
 19 serting “SCORE program”.

20 (2) Section 337(d)(2)(A) of the Energy Policy
 21 and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6307(d)(2)(A)) is
 22 amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Ex-
 23 ecutives (SCORE)” and inserting “SCORE pro-
 24 gram”.

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 *This Act may be cited as the “SCORE for Small Busi-*
3 *ness Act of 2015”.*

4 **SEC. 2. SCORE REAUTHORIZATION.**

5 *Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631*
6 *note) is amended—*

7 *(1) by redesignating subsection (j) as subsection*
8 *(f); and*

9 *(2) by adding at the end the following:*

10 *“(g) SCORE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be*
11 *appropriated to the Administrator to carry out the SCORE*
12 *program authorized by section 8(b)(1) such sums as are nec-*
13 *essary for the Administrator to make grants or enter into*
14 *cooperative agreements in a total amount that does not ex-*
15 *ceed \$10,500,000 in each of fiscal years 2016, 2017, and*
16 *2018.”.*

17 **SEC. 3. SCORE PROGRAM.**

18 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8 of the Small Business Act*
19 *(15 U.S.C. 637) is amended—*

20 *(1) in subsection (b)(1)(B), by striking “a Serv-*
21 *ice Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)” and in-*
22 *serting “the SCORE program described in subsection*
23 *(c)”;* and

24 *(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the*
25 *following:*

26 *“(c) SCORE PROGRAM.—*

1 “(1) *DEFINITION.*—*In this subsection, the term*
2 ‘*SCORE program*’ *means the SCORE program au-*
3 *thorized by subsection (b)(1)(B).*

4 “(2) *VOLUNTEERS.*—*A volunteer participating*
5 *in the SCORE program shall—*

6 “(A) *based on the business experience and*
7 *knowledge of the volunteer—*

8 “(i) *provide at no cost to individuals*
9 *who own, or aspire to own, small business*
10 *concerns personal counseling, mentoring,*
11 *and coaching relating to the process of*
12 *starting, expanding, managing, buying, and*
13 *selling a business; and*

14 “(ii) *facilitate low-cost education work-*
15 *shops for individuals who own, or aspire to*
16 *own, small business concerns; and*

17 “(B) *as appropriate, use tools, resources,*
18 *and expertise of other organizations to carry out*
19 *the SCORE program.*

20 “(3) *PLANS AND GOALS.*—*The Administrator, in*
21 *consultation with the SCORE Association, shall en-*
22 *sure that the SCORE program and each chapter of*
23 *the SCORE program develop and implement plans*
24 *and goals to more effectively and efficiently provide*
25 *services to individuals in rural areas, economically*

1 *disadvantaged communities, and other traditionally*
2 *underserved communities, including plans for elec-*
3 *tronic initiatives, web-based initiatives, chapter ex-*
4 *pansion, partnerships, and the development of new*
5 *skills by volunteers participating in the SCORE pro-*
6 *gram.*

7 *“(4) ANNUAL REPORT.—The SCORE Association*
8 *shall submit to the Administrator an annual report*
9 *that contains—*

10 *“(A) the number of individuals counseled or*
11 *trained under the SCORE program;*

12 *“(B) the number of hours of counseling pro-*
13 *vided under the SCORE program; and*

14 *“(C) to the extent possible—*

15 *“(i) the number of small business con-*
16 *cerns formed with assistance from the*
17 *SCORE program;*

18 *“(ii) the number of small business con-*
19 *cerns expanded with assistance from the*
20 *SCORE program; and*

21 *“(iii) the number of jobs created with*
22 *assistance from the SCORE program.*

23 *“(5) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—*

24 *“(A) IN GENERAL.—Neither the Adminis-*
25 *trator nor the SCORE Association may disclose*

1 *the name, address, or telephone number of any*
2 *individual or small business concern receiving*
3 *assistance from the SCORE Association without*
4 *the consent of such individual or small business*
5 *concern, unless—*

6 “(i) *the Administrator is ordered to*
7 *make such a disclosure by a court in any*
8 *civil or criminal enforcement action initi-*
9 *ated by a Federal or State agency; or*

10 “(ii) *the Administrator determines*
11 *such a disclosure to be necessary for the*
12 *purpose of conducting a financial audit of*
13 *the SCORE program, in which case disclo-*
14 *sure shall be limited to the information nec-*
15 *essary for the audit.*

16 “(B) *ADMINISTRATOR USE OF INFORMA-*
17 *TION.—This paragraph shall not—*

18 “(i) *restrict the access of the Adminis-*
19 *trator to program activity data; or*

20 “(ii) *prevent the Administrator from*
21 *using client information to conduct client*
22 *surveys.*

23 “(C) *REGULATIONS.—*

1 “(i) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Administrator*
2 *shall issue regulations to establish standards*
3 *for—*

4 “(I) *disclosures with respect to fi-*
5 *nancial audits under subparagraph*
6 *(A)(ii); and*

7 “(II) *conducting client surveys,*
8 *including standards for oversight of the*
9 *surveys and for dissemination and use*
10 *of client information.*

11 “(ii) *MAXIMUM PRIVACY PROTEC-*
12 *TION.*—*The regulations issued under this*
13 *subparagraph shall, to the extent prac-*
14 *ticable, provide for the maximum amount of*
15 *privacy protection.”.*

16 (b) *OFFSET.*—*In carrying out the Entrepreneurship*
17 *Education Program during each of fiscal years 2016, 2017,*
18 *and 2018, the Administrator of the Small Business Admin-*
19 *istration—*

20 (1) *may not obligate more than \$5,000,000; and*

21 (2) *may not obligate less than \$2,500,000 of the*
22 *amount obligated for the Entrepreneurship Education*
23 *Program to carry out the Emerging Leaders Initia-*
24 *tive.*

1 **SEC. 4. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

2 (a) *SMALL BUSINESS ACT.*—*The Small Business Act*
 3 *(15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—*

4 (1) *in section 7(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII) (15 U.S.C.*
 5 *636(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII)), by striking “Service Corps of*
 6 *Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE pro-*
 7 *gram”;* and

8 (2) *in section 22 (15 U.S.C. 649)—*

9 (A) *in subsection (b)—*

10 (i) *in paragraph (1), by striking*
 11 *“Service Corps of Retired Executives” and*
 12 *inserting “SCORE program”;* and

13 (ii) *in paragraph (3), by striking*
 14 *“Service Corps of Retired Executives” and*
 15 *inserting “SCORE program”;* and

16 (B) *in subsection (c)(12), by striking “Serv-*
 17 *ice Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting*
 18 *“SCORE program”.*

19 (b) *OTHER LAWS.—*

20 (1) *Section 621 of the Children’s Health Insur-*
 21 *ance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (15*
 22 *U.S.C. 657p) is amended—*

23 (A) *in subsection (a), by striking paragraph*
 24 *(4) and inserting the following:*

25 “(4) *the term ‘SCORE program’ means the*
 26 *SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1)(B) of*

1 *the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B));*”;
2 *and*

3 *(B) in subsection (b)(4)(A)(iv), by striking*
4 *“Service Corps of Retired Executives” and in-*
5 *serting “SCORE program”.*

6 *(2) Section 337(d)(2)(A) of the Energy Policy*
7 *and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6307(d)(2)(A)) is*
8 *amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Execu-*
9 *tives (SCORE)” and inserting “SCORE program”.*

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