AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115-70

OFFERED BY MS. ADAMS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Page 381, after line 9, insert the following:

SEC. 861. SCORE.

(a) SCORE REAUTHORIZATION.—Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (j) as subsection (f); and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(g) SCORE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out the SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1) such sums as are necessary for the Administrator to make grants or enter into cooperative agreements in a total amount that does not exceed $10,500,000 in each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019.”.

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

(1) in subsection (b)(1)(B), by striking “a Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)” and inserting “the SCORE program described in subsection (c)”;}
(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) SCORE Program.—

“(1) Definition.—In this subsection:

“(A) SCORE Association.—The term ‘SCORE Association’ means the Service Corps of Retired Executives Association or any successor or other organization who receives a grant from the Administrator to operate the SCORE program under paragraph (2)(A).

“(B) SCORE Program.—The term ‘SCORE program’ means the SCORE program authorized by subsection (b)(1)(B).

“(2) Management and Volunteers.—

“(A) In General.—The Administrator shall provide a grant to the SCORE Association to manage the SCORE program.

“(B) Volunteers.—A volunteer participating in the SCORE program shall—

“(i) based on the business experience and knowledge of the volunteer—

“(I) provide at no cost to individuals who own, or aspire to own, small business concerns personal counseling, mentoring, and coaching relating to
the process of starting, expanding, managing, buying, and selling a business; and

“(II) facilitate low-cost education workshops for individuals who own, or aspire to own, small business concerns; and

“(ii) as appropriate, use tools, resources, and expertise of other organizations to carry out the SCORE program.

“(3) PLANS AND GOALS.—The Administrator, in consultation with the SCORE Association, shall ensure that the SCORE program and each chapter of the SCORE program develop and implement plans and goals to more effectively and efficiently provide services to individuals in rural areas, economically disadvantaged communities, and other traditionally underserved communities, including plans for electronic initiatives, web-based initiatives, chapter expansion, partnerships, and the development of new skills by volunteers participating in the SCORE program.

“(4) ANNUAL REPORT.—The SCORE Association shall submit to the Administrator an annual report that contains—
“(A) the number of individuals counseled or trained under the SCORE program;

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

“(C) to the extent possible—

“(i) the number of small business concerns formed with assistance from the SCORE program;

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

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

“(5) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Neither the Administrator nor the SCORE Association may disclose the name, address, or telephone number of any individual or small business concern receiving assistance from the SCORE Association without the consent of such individual or small business concern, unless—

“(i) the Administrator is ordered to make such a disclosure by a court in any civil or criminal enforcement action initiated by a Federal or State agency; or
“(ii) the Administrator determines such a disclosure to be necessary for the purpose of conducting a financial audit of the SCORE program, in which case disclosure shall be limited to the information necessary for the audit.

“(B) Administrator use of information.—This paragraph shall not—

“(i) restrict the access of the Administrator to program activity data; or

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

“(C) Standards.—

“(i) In general.—The Administrator shall, after the opportunity for notice and comment, establish standards for—

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

“(II) conducting client surveys, including standards for oversight of the surveys and for dissemination and use of client information.
“(ii) Maximum Privacy Protection.—The standards issued under this subparagraph shall, to the extent practicable, provide for the maximum amount of privacy protection.”.

(c) Online Component.—

(1) In general.—Section 8(c) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(c)), as amended by subsection (b), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(6) Online Component.—In carrying out this subsection, the SCORE Association shall make use of online counseling, including by developing and implementing webinars and an electronic mentoring platform to expand access to services provided under this subsection and to further support entrepreneurs.”.

(2) Online Component Report.—

(A) In general.—At the end of fiscal year 2018, the SCORE Association shall issue a report to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate on the effectiveness of the online
counseling and webinars required as part of the
SCORE program, including—

(i) how the SCORE Association deter-
mines electronic mentoring and webinar
needs, develops training for electronic men-
toring, establishes webinar criteria cur-
ricula, and evaluates webinar and elec-
tronic mentoring results;

(ii) describing the internal controls
that are used and a summary of the topics
covered by the webinars; and

(iii) performance metrics, including
the number of small business concerns
counseled by, the number of small business
contents created by, the number of jobs
created and retained by, and the funding
amounts directed towards such online
counseling and webinars.

(B) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this
subsection, the terms “SCORE Association”
and “SCORE program” have the meaning
given those terms, respectively, under section
8(c)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
637(c)(1)).
(d) **Study and Report on the Future Role of the SCORE Program.**—

(1) **Study.**—The SCORE Association shall carry out a study on the future role of the SCORE program and develop a strategic plan for how the SCORE program will evolve to meet the needs of small business concerns and potential future small business concerns over the course of the 5 years following the date of enactment of this Act, with markers and specific objectives for year 1, year 3, and year 5.

(2) **Report.**—Not later than the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the SCORE Association shall issue a report to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate containing—

(A) all findings and determination made in carrying out the study required under paragraph (1);

(B) the strategic plan developed under paragraph (1);

(C) an explanation of how the SCORE Association plans to achieve the strategic plan, as-
suming both stagnant and increased funding levels.

(3) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the terms “SCORE Association” and “SCORE program” have the meaning given those terms, respectively, under section 8(c)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(c)(1)).

(e) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

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

(A) in section 7(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII) (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII)), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(B) in section 22 (15 U.S.C. 649)—

(i) in subsection (b)—

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

(II) in paragraph (3), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and
(ii) in subsection (c)(12), by striking "Service Corps of Retired Executives" and inserting "SCORE program".

(2) OTHER LAWS.—

(A) CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009.—Section 621 of the Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (15 U.S.C. 657p) is amended—

(i) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

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

and

(ii) in subsection (b)(4)(A)(iv), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”.

(B) ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT.—Section 337(d)(2)(A) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6307(d)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)” and inserting “SCORE program”.