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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To reauthorize the White House Conference on Small Business Authorization Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BLUM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To reauthorize the White House Conference on Small Business Authorization Act, and for other purposes.

- 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 2 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**
- 3 This Act may be cited as the “White House Conference on Small Business Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE WHITE HOUSE CON-**
2 **FERENCE ON SMALL BUSINESS.**

3 The White House Conference on Small Business Au-
4 thorization Act (Public Law 101-409; 15 U.S.C. 631
5 note) is amended—

6 (1) in section 2(a)—

7 (A) by striking “The President” and in-
8 serting “Subject to amounts collected under
9 section 10, the President”

10 (B) by striking “not earlier than May 1,
11 1995, and not later than September 30, 1995”
12 and inserting “not earlier than December 31,
13 2018, and not later than December 1, 2019”;
14 and

15 (C) by striking “March 1, 1994” and in-
16 serting “October 1, 2018”;

17 (2) in section 3—

18 (A) by striking “contribution of small busi-
19 ness” and inserting “contribution of small busi-
20 ness to the national economy”;

21 (B) by striking “to identify the problems”
22 and inserting “to identify and prioritize the
23 problems impacting”;

24 (C) by striking “particularly” and insert-
25 ing “including”;

1 (D) by striking “as may be appropriate for
2 maintaining and encouraging” and inserting
3 “that maintain, encourage, and expand”;

4 (E) by inserting “to evaluate the small
5 business assistance programs of the Small Busi-
6 ness Administration and other Federal agencies
7 and recommend potential improvements for
8 those programs; and” after “Nation;” and

9 (F) by striking "1986" and inserting
10 "1995";

11 (3) in section 4—

12 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “\$10”
13 and inserting “\$200”;

14 (B) by amending subsection (b) to read as
15 follows:

16 "(b) PARTICIPANTS.—

17 “(1) NATIONAL CONFERENCE.—An individual
18 may not participate in the National Conference un-
19 less such individual has been selected as a delegate
20 by a State conference and by a regional meeting of
21 delegates and is an owner, officer, or employee of a
22 small business.

23 “(2) DELEGATES.—Delegates to the National
24 Conference shall include—

1 “(A) one delegate appointed by each Governor or chief executive official of a State;

2 “(B) one delegate appointed by each Member of the Senate, each Member of the House of Representatives, each Delegate to the House of Representatives, and the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico;

3 “(C) one hundred delegates appointed by the President; and

4 “(D) the delegates elected by participants at each State Conference.

5 “(3) ALTERNATES.—Each delegate shall have an alternate, appointed or elected in the same manner as the delegate.”;

6 (4) in section 5—

7 (A) by striking “Subsequent to the date of enactment of this Act, but not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the” and inserting “The”;

8 (B) by striking “GS-18” each place such term appears and inserting “GS-15”; and

9 (C) in subsection (h), by striking “Chairperson” and inserting “Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration”;

10 (5) in section 6(a)—

1 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at
2 the end;

3 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking the pe-
4 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

5 (C) by adding at the end the following new
6 paragraph:

7 “(4) shall establish an electronic communication
8 system for use by delegates and alternates for com-
9 munication before, during, and for at least 4 years
10 after the National Conference to allow State delega-
11 tions and issue area groups to collaboratively define
12 the problems faced by small businesses, refine sug-
13 gested solutions to those problems, prioritize and se-
14 lect final recommendations, and monitor later legis-
15 lative or regulatory action on the recommenda-
16 tions.”; and

17 (6) by striking section 9 and inserting the fol-
18 lowing:

19 "SEC. 9. CO-SPONSORSHIP OF ACTIVITIES.

20 "(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Administrator of the
21 Small Business Administration, after consultation with
22 the General Counsel of the Small Business Administra-
23 tion, may sponsor activities or cosponsor activities with an
24 eligible entity, including recognition events, for small busi-
25 ness concerns.

1 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this section, the term
2 ‘eligible entity’ means any for-profit or not-for-profit enti-
3 ty, and State, or local government official, or any State,
4 or local government entity.

5 “(c) PROHIBITION ON ENDORSEMENTS.—The Ad-
6 ministrator shall ensure that any eligible entities that co-
7 sponsor activities receive appropriate recognition for such
8 cosponsorship, and that such recognition is not considered
9 to be an endorsement by the Small Business Administra-
10 tion of any product or service of such eligible entity.

11 **“SEC. 10. FUNDING NATIONAL CONFERENCE.**

12 “(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—The ac-
13 tivities authorized by this Act shall be funded, to the ex-
14 tent and in the amount provided in advance in appropria-
15 tions Acts, exclusively by amounts (if any) collected under
16 subsection (b). No other amounts are authorized to be ap-
17 propriated to carry out this Act.

18 “(b) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT GIFTS.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
20 graph (2), for purposes of carrying out this Act, the
21 Commission, the Administrator of the Small Busi-
22 ness Administration, and the Administrator of the
23 General Service Administration may—

24 “(A) solicit ownership, accept, and hold
25 gifts, devises, and bequests of cash, property

1 (including tangible, intangible, real and per-
2 sonal), or subsistence from non-Federal sources;
3 and

4 “(B) enter into an agreement with any or-
5 ganization described in section 501(c)(3) of the
6 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt
7 from taxation under section 501(a) of such
8 Code to solicit the donations described under
9 subparagraph (A).

10 “(2) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—No gift, devise,
11 or bequest shall be solicited or accepted under the
12 authority of this subsection if such solicitation or ac-
13 ceptance would, in the determination of the Inspec-
14 tor General of the SBA create a conflict of interest.

15 "(c) FUNDS REMAINING AT TERMINATION.—On the
16 date of termination of the National Conference, any unob-
17 ligated amounts collected under this section shall be de-
18 posited in the general fund of the Treasury.".