

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 791

AN ACT

To amend the Small Business Act to expand intellectual property education and training for small businesses, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Small Business Inno-
3 vation Protection Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act—

6 (1) the term “Administrator” means the Ad-
7 ministrator of the SBA;

8 (2) the term “Director” means the Under Sec-
9 retary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and
10 Director of the USPTO;

11 (3) the term “SBA” means the Small Business
12 Administration;

13 (4) the term “small business concern” has the
14 meaning given the term in section 3(a) of the Small
15 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(a));

16 (5) the term “small business development cen-
17 ter” means a center described in section 21 of the
18 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648); and

19 (6) the term “USPTO” means the United
20 States Patent and Trademark Office.

21 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

22 Congress finds that—

23 (1) the USPTO and the SBA are positioned
24 to—

1 (A) build upon several successful intellec-
2 tual property and training programs aimed at
3 small business concerns; and

4 (B) increase the availability of and the
5 participation in the programs described in sub-
6 paragraph (A) across the United States; and

7 (2) any education and training program admin-
8 istered by the USPTO and the SBA should be scal-
9 able so that the program is able to reach more small
10 business concerns.

11 **SEC. 4. SBA AND USPTO PARTNERSHIPS.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than 180
13 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Adminis-
14 trator, in consultation with the Director, shall develop
15 partnership agreements that—

16 (1) provide for the—

17 (A) development of high-quality training,
18 including in-person or modular training ses-
19 sions, for small business concerns relating to
20 domestic and international protection of intel-
21 lectual property;

22 (B) leveraging of training materials al-
23 ready developed for the education of inventors
24 and small business concerns; and

- 1 (C) participation of a nongovernmental or-
2 ganization; and
3 (2) provide training—
4 (A) through electronic resources, including
5 Internet-based webinars; and
6 (B) at physical locations, including—
7 (i) a small business development cen-
8 ter; and
9 (ii) the headquarters or a regional of-
10 fice of the USPTO.

11 **SEC. 5. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.**

12 Section 21(c)(3) of the Small Business Act (15
13 U.S.C. 648(c)(3)) is amended—

- 14 (1) in subparagraph (S), by striking “and” at
15 the end;
16 (2) in subparagraph (T), by striking the period
17 at the end and inserting “; and”; and
18 (3) by adding at the end the following:
19 “(U) in conjunction with the United States Pat-
20 ent and Trademark Office, providing training—
21 “(i) to small business concerns relating
22 to—
23 “(I) domestic and international intel-
24 lectual property protections; and

1 “(II) how the protections described in
2 subclause (I) should be considered in the
3 business plans and growth strategies of the
4 small business concerns; and
5 “(ii) that may be delivered—
6 “(I) in person; or
7 “(II) through a website.”.

Passed the Senate July 18, 2018.

Attest:

Secretary.

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OFFICE OF THE CLERK
U.S. SENATE
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