

Union Calendar No.

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5065

[Report No. 116-]

To amend the Small Business Act to provide re-entry entrepreneurship counseling and training services for formerly incarcerated individuals, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 13, 2019

Mr. JEFFRIES (for himself and Mr. BURCHETT) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

DECEMBER --, 2019

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union,
and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to provide re-entry entrepreneurship counseling and training services for formerly incarcerated individuals, 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 “Prison to Proprietor-
5 ship for Formerly Incarcerated Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. RE-ENTRY ENTREPRENEURSHIP COUNSELING AND**
7 **TRAINING FOR FORMERLY INCARCERATED**
8 **INDIVIDUALS.**

9 The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is
10 amended—

11 (1) by redesignating section 49 as section 50;
12 and

13 (2) by inserting after section 48 the following
14 new section:

15 **“SEC. 49. RE-ENTRY ENTREPRENEURSHIP COUNSELING**
16 **AND TRAINING FOR FORMERLY INCARCER-**
17 **ATED INDIVIDUALS.**

18 “(a) SERVICES REQUIRED.—The Administrator, in
19 coordination with the Director of the Bureau of Prisons,
20 shall require the Service Corps of Retired Executives to
21 provide entrepreneurship counseling and training services
22 to individuals formerly incarcerated in a Federal prison
23 (hereinafter referred to as ‘covered individuals’) on a na-
24 tionwide basis.

1 “(b) GOALS.—The goal of the services provided under
2 this section is to provide covered individuals with the fol-
3 lowing:

4 “(1) Mentoring, workshops, and instructional
5 videos designed specifically for covered individuals
6 on how to start or expand a small business concern.

7 “(2) Tools, skills, and knowledge necessary to
8 identify a business opportunity, including how to—

9 “(A) draft a skills profile, business plan,
10 and transition plan;

11 “(B) identify sources of capital; and

12 “(C) connect with local resources for small
13 business concerns.

14 “(c) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—The services
15 provided under this section shall include—

16 “(1) regular individualized mentoring sessions,
17 to take place over the course of a year, to support
18 development of the business plans of covered individ-
19 uals and the growth of covered individuals as entre-
20 preneurs;

21 “(2) assistance with identifying of local re-
22 sources for small business concerns for covered indi-
23 viduals;

24 “(3) assistance with identifying sources of cap-
25 ital, and when appropriate, assistance with pre-

1 paring applications for loans and other funding op-
2 portunities; and

3 “(4) workshops on topics specifically tailored to
4 meet the needs of covered individuals.

5 “(d) SURVEY.—The Service Corps of Retired Execu-
6 tives shall survey covered individuals who received services
7 under this section to assess the satisfaction of such cov-
8 ered individuals with such services.

9 “(e) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
10 of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter,
11 the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small
12 Business of the House of Representatives and the Com-
13 mittee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the
14 Senate a report on the performance and effectiveness of
15 the services provided under this section, which may be in-
16 cluded as part of another report submitted to such com-
17 mittees by the Administrator, and which shall include—

18 “(1) the number of covered individuals
19 mentored under this section;

20 “(2) the number of hours of mentorship pro-
21 vided by the Service Corps of Retired Executives
22 under this section;

23 “(3) the demographics of covered individuals
24 who received services, including age, gender, race,
25 and ethnicity;

1 “(4) a summary and analysis of surveys con-
2 ducted under subsection (d); and
3 “(5) any additional information the Adminis-
4 trator may require.”.