

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 1700, with an Amendment**

**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)**

115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1700

To amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program,  
and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 23, 2017

Ms. ADAMS (for herself and Mr. BACON) introduced the following bill; which  
was referred to the Committee on Small Business

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## A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize 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 title may be cited as the “SCORE for Small  
5 Business Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. SCORE REAUTHORIZATION.**

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

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

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

4 “(g) SCORE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be  
5 appropriated to the Administrator to carry out the  
6 SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1) such sums  
7 as are necessary for the Administrator to make grants or  
8 enter into cooperative agreements in a total amount that  
9 does not exceed \$10,500,000 in each of fiscal years 2019  
10 and 2020.”.

11 **SEC. 3. SCORE PROGRAM.**

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

14 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

15 (A) by striking “a Service Corps of Retired  
16 Executives (SCORE)” and inserting “the  
17 SCORE program described in subsection (e)”;  
18 and

19 (B) by striking “SCORE may” and insert-  
20 ing “the SCORE program may”; and

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

23 “(c) SCORE PROGRAM.—

24 “(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection:

1           “(A) SCORE ASSOCIATION.—The term  
2           ‘SCORE Association’ means the Service Corps  
3           of Retired Executives Association or any suc-  
4           cessor or other organization that receives a  
5           grant from the Administrator to operate the  
6           SCORE program under paragraph (2)(A).

7           “(B) SCORE PROGRAM.—The term  
8           ‘SCORE program’ means the SCORE program  
9           authorized by subsection (b)(1)(B).

10          “(2) MANAGEMENT AND VOLUNTEERS.—

11           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator  
12           shall provide a grant to the SCORE Association  
13           to manage the SCORE program.

14           “(B) VOLUNTEERS.—A volunteer partici-  
15           pating in the SCORE program shall—

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

18                           “(I) provide at no cost to individ-  
19                           uals who own, or aspire to own, small  
20                           business concerns personal counseling,  
21                           mentoring, and coaching relating to  
22                           the process of starting, expanding,  
23                           managing, buying, and selling a busi-  
24                           ness; and

1                   “(II) facilitate low-cost education  
2                   workshops for individuals who own, or  
3                   aspire to own, small business con-  
4                   cerns; and

5                   “(ii) as appropriate, use tools, re-  
6                   sources, and expertise of other organiza-  
7                   tions to carry out the SCORE program.

8                   “(3) PLANS AND GOALS.—The Administrator,  
9                   in consultation with the SCORE Association, shall  
10                  ensure that the SCORE program and each chapter  
11                  of the SCORE program develop and implement  
12                  plans and goals to more effectively and efficiently  
13                  provide services to individuals in rural areas, eco-  
14                  nomically disadvantaged communities, and other tra-  
15                  ditionally underserved communities, including plans  
16                  for electronic initiatives, web-based initiatives, chap-  
17                  ter expansion, partnerships, and the development of  
18                  new skills by volunteers participating in the SCORE  
19                  program.

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

23                         “(A) the number of individuals counseled  
24                         or trained under the SCORE program;

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

3           “(C) to the extent possible—

4                 “(i) the number of small business con-  
5                 cerns formed with assistance from the  
6                 SCORE program;

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

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

12           “(5) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—

13                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Neither the Adminis-  
14                 trator nor the SCORE Association may disclose  
15                 the name, address, or telephone number of any  
16                 individual or small business concern receiving  
17                 assistance from the SCORE Association with-  
18                 out the consent of such individual or small busi-  
19                 ness concern, unless—

20                 “(i) the Administrator is ordered to  
21                 make such a disclosure by a court in any  
22                 civil or criminal enforcement action initi-  
23                 ated by a Federal or State agency; or

24                 “(ii) the Administrator determines  
25                 such a disclosure to be necessary for the

1           purpose of conducting a financial audit of  
2           the SCORE program, in which case disclo-  
3           sure shall be limited to the information  
4           necessary for the audit.

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

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

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

12          “(C) STANDARDS.—

13                  “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator  
14                  shall, after the opportunity for notice and  
15                  comment, establish standards for—

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

19                          “(II) conducting client surveys,  
20                          including standards for oversight of  
21                          the surveys and for dissemination and  
22                          use of client information.

23                  “(ii) MAXIMUM PRIVACY PROTEC-  
24                  TION.—The standards issued under this  
25                  subparagraph shall, to the extent prac-

1                    ticable, provide for the maximum amount  
2                    of privacy protection.”.

3 **SEC. 4. ONLINE COMPONENT.**

4            (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8(c) of the Small Busi-  
5 ness Act (15 U.S.C. 637(c)), as amended by section 3,  
6 is further amended by adding at the end the following:

7            “(6) ONLINE COMPONENT.—In carrying out  
8 this subsection, the SCORE Association shall make  
9 use of online counseling, including by developing and  
10 implementing webinars and an electronic mentoring  
11 platform to expand access to services provided under  
12 this subsection and to further support entre-  
13 preneurs.”.

14            (b) ONLINE COMPONENT REPORT.—

15            (1) IN GENERAL.—At the end of fiscal year  
16 2019, the SCORE Association shall issue a report to  
17 the Committee on Small Business of the House of  
18 Representatives and the Committee on Small Busi-  
19 ness and Entrepreneurship of the Senate on the ef-  
20 fectiveness of the online counseling and webinars re-  
21 quired as part of the SCORE program, including a  
22 description of—

23            (A) how the SCORE Association deter-  
24 mines electronic mentoring and webinar needs,  
25 develops training for electronic mentoring, es-

1 tablishes webinar criteria curricula, and evalu-  
2 ates webinar and electronic mentoring results;

3 (B) the internal controls that are used and  
4 a summary of the topics covered by the  
5 webinars; and

6 (C) performance metrics, including the  
7 number of small business concerns counseled  
8 by, the number of small business concerns cre-  
9 ated by, the number of jobs created and re-  
10 tained by, and the funding amounts directed to-  
11 wards such online counseling and webinars.

12 (2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-  
13 section, the terms “SCORE Association” and  
14 “SCORE program” have the meaning given those  
15 terms, respectively, under section 8(c)(1) of the  
16 Small Business Act, as added by section 3 of this  
17 Act.

18 **SEC. 5. STUDY AND REPORT ON THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE**  
19 **SCORE PROGRAM.**

20 (a) STUDY.—The SCORE Association shall carry out  
21 a study on the future role of the SCORE program and  
22 develop a strategic plan for how the SCORE program will  
23 meet the needs of small business concerns during the 5-  
24 year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this



1 Act, with specific objectives for the first, third, and fifth  
2 years of the 5-year period.

3 (b) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 6-month  
4 period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act,  
5 the SCORE Association shall issue a report to the Com-  
6 mittee on Small Business of the House of Representatives  
7 and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneur-  
8 ship of the Senate containing—

9 (1) all findings and determination made in car-  
10 rying out the study required under subsection (a);

11 (2) the strategic plan developed under sub-  
12 section (a);

13 (3) an explanation of how the SCORE Associa-  
14 tion plans to achieve the strategic plan, assuming  
15 both stagnant and increased funding levels.

16 (c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the  
17 terms “SCORE Association” and “SCORE program”  
18 have the meaning given those terms, respectively, under  
19 section 8(c)(1) of the Small Business Act, as added by  
20 section 3 of this Act.

21 **SEC. 6. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

22 (a) SMALL BUSINESS ACT.—The Small Business Act  
23 (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

24 (1) in section 7 (15 U.S.C. 636)—

25 (A) in subsection (b)(12)—

1 (i) in the paragraph heading, by in-  
2 serting “PROGRAM” after “SCORE”; and

3 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
4 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and  
5 inserting “SCORE program”; and

6 (B) in subsection (m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII), by  
7 striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives”  
8 and inserting “SCORE program”; and

9 (2) in section 22 (15 U.S.C. 649)—

10 (A) in subsection (b)—

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

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

17 (B) in subsection (c)(12), by striking  
18 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and in-  
19 serting “SCORE program”.

20 (b) OTHER LAWS.—

21 (1) SMALL BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION ACT  
22 OF 1997.—Section 707 of the Small Business Reau-  
23 thorization Act of 1997 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is  
24 amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Ex-  
25 ecutives (SCORE) program” and inserting “SCORE

1 program (as defined in section 8(c)(1) of the Small  
2 Business Act)”).

3 (2) VETERANS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND  
4 SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1999.—Sec-  
5 tion 301 of the Veterans Entrepreneurship and  
6 Small Business Development Act of 1999 (15 U.S.C.  
7 657b note) is amended by striking “Service Core of  
8 Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE pro-  
9 gram”.

10 (3) MILITARY RESERVIST AND VETERAN SMALL  
11 BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION AND OPPORTUNITY  
12 ACT OF 2008.—Section 3(5) of the Military Reservist  
13 and Veteran Small Business Reauthorization and  
14 Opportunity Act of 2008 (15 U.S.C. 636 note) is  
15 amended by striking “means the SCORE program”.

16 (4) CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM  
17 REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009.—Section 621 of the  
18 Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthoriza-  
19 tion Act of 2009 (15 U.S.C. 657p) is amended—

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

22 “(4) the term ‘SCORE program’ means the  
23 SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1)(B)  
24 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.  
25 637(b)(1)(B));”; and

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

4 (5) ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION  
5 ACT.—Section 337(d)(2)(A) of the Energy Policy  
6 and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6307(d)(2)(A)) is  
7 amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Ex-  
8 ecutives (SCORE)” and inserting “SCORE pro-  
9 gram”.