

Union Calendar No. 547

115TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 2655

[Report No. 115–660, Part I]

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2017

Mr. EVANS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

MAY 1, 2018

Reported from the Committee on Small Business

MAY 1, 2018

Referral to the Committee on the Judiciary extended for a period ending not later than May 31, 2018

MAY 29, 2018

Additional sponsor: Mr. FITZPATRICK

MAY 29, 2018

The Committee on the Judiciary discharged; 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 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act—

8 (1) the term “Administrator” means the Ad-
9 ministrator of the SBA;

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

13 (3) the term “SBA” means the Small Business
14 Administration;

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

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

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

23 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

24 Congress finds that—

1 (1) the USPTO and the SBA are positioned
2 to—

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

6 (B) increase the availability of and the
7 participation in those programs across the
8 United States; and

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

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

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
15 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator and the
16 Director shall enter into a partnership agreement under
17 which the Administrator and Director shall—

18 (1) develop high-quality training, including in-
19 person or modular training sessions, for small busi-
20 ness concerns relating to—

21 (A) domestic and international protection
22 of intellectual property; and

23 (B) how such protections should be consid-
24 ered in the business plans and growth strategies
25 of the small business concerns; and

1 (2) leverage existing training materials already
2 developed to educate inventors and small business
3 concerns.

4 (b) TRAINING.—The training developed under sub-
5 section (a) may be provided by the Administrator, the Di-
6 rector, or small business development centers established
7 under section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
8 648)—

9 (1) through electronic resources, including
10 Internet-based webinars; and

11 (2) at physical locations, including at—

12 (A) a small business development center;

13 or

14 (B) the headquarters or a regional office of
15 the USPTO.

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

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

19 (1) in subparagraph (S), by striking “and” at
20 the end;

21 (2) in subparagraph (T), by striking the period
22 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

24 “(U) training developed by the Administrator
25 and the Director of the United States Patent and

1 Trademark Office, which may be delivered in person
2 or through a website to small business concerns re-
3 lating to—

4 “(i) domestic and international intellectual
5 property protections; and

6 “(ii) how such protections should be con-
7 sidered in the business plans and growth strate-
8 gies of the small business concerns.”.

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