

Public Law 98-276
98th Congress

An Act

To provide for a White House Conference on Small Business.

May 8, 1984

[H.R. 5298]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "White House Conference on Small Business Authorization Act".

White House
Conference on
Small Business
Authorization
Act.

15 USC 631 note.

15 USC 631 note.

AUTHORIZATION OF CONFERENCE

SEC. 2. (a) The President shall call and conduct a National White House Conference on Small Business (hereinafter referred to as the "Conference") not earlier than January 1, 1985, and not later than September 1, 1986, to carry out the purposes described in section 3 of this Act. The Conference shall be preceded by State and regional conferences with at least one such conference being held in each State.

State and local
governments.

(b) Participants in the Conference and other interested individuals and organizations, are authorized to conduct conferences and other activities at the State and regional levels prior to the date of the Conference, subject to the approval of the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and shall direct such conferences and activities toward the consideration of the purposes of the Conference described in section 3 of this Act in order to prepare for the National Conference.

PURPOSE OF CONFERENCE

SEC. 3. The purpose of the Conference shall be to increase public awareness of the essential contribution of small business; to identify the problems of small business; to examine the status of minorities and women as small business owners; to assist small business in carrying out its role as the Nation's job creator; to assemble small businesses to develop such specific and comprehensive recommendations for executive and legislative action as may be appropriate for maintaining and encouraging the economic viability of small business and, thereby, the Nation; and to review the status of recommendations adopted at the 1980 White House Conference on Small Business.

Minorities.

Women.

15 USC 631 note.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

SEC. 4. (a) In order to carry out the purposes specified in section 3 of this Act, the Conference shall bring together individuals concerned with issues relating to small business: *Provided*, That no small business concern representative may be denied admission to any State or regional conference, nor may any fee or charge be imposed on any small business concern representative except an amount to cover the cost of any meal provided to such representative plus a registration fee of not to exceed \$10.

15 USC 631 note.

(b) Delegates, including alternates, to the National Conference shall be elected by participants at the State and regional conferences: *Provided*, That each Governor and each chief executive official of the political subdivisions enumerated in section 4(a) of the Small Business Act may appoint one delegate and one alternate: *Provided further*, That each Member of the United States House of Representatives, including each Delegate, and each Member of the United States Senate may appoint one delegate and one alternate: *And provided further*, That the President may appoint one hundred delegates and alternates. Only individuals from small businesses shall be eligible for appointment pursuant to this subsection.

15 USC 633.

PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION OF CONFERENCE

15 USC 631 note.

SEC. 5. (a) All Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities are authorized and directed to provide such support and assistance as may be necessary to facilitate the planning and administration of the Conference.

(b) In carrying out the provisions of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration—

(1) shall provide such assistance as may be necessary for the organization and conduct of conferences at the State and regional levels as authorized under section 2(b) of this Act; and

(2) is authorized to enter into contracts with public agencies, private organizations, and academic institutions to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(c) The Chief Counsel for Advocacy shall assist in carrying out the provisions of this Act by preparing and providing background materials for use by participants in the Conference, as well as by participants in State and regional conferences.

(d) Each participant in the Conference shall be responsible for his or her expenses related to attending the Conference and shall not be reimbursed either from funds appropriated pursuant to this Act or the Small Business Act.

15 USC 631 note.

(e)(1) The President is authorized to appoint and compensate an executive director and such other directors and personnel for the Conference as he may deem advisable, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates.

5 USC 5101 et seq., 5331.

(2) Upon request by the executive director, the heads of the executive and military departments are authorized to detail employees to work with the executive director in planning and administering the Conference without regard to the provisions of section 3341 of title 5, United States Code.

REPORTS REQUIRED

15 USC 631 note.

SEC. 6. Not more than six months from the date on which the National Conference is convened, a final report of the Conference shall be submitted to the President and the Congress. The report shall include the findings and recommendations of the Conference as well as proposals for any legislative action necessary to implement the recommendations of the Conference. The final report of the Conference shall be available to the public.

Public availability.

FOLLOWUP ACTIONS

SEC. 7. The Small Business Administration shall report to the Congress annually during the three-year period following the submission of the final report of the Conference on the status and implementation of the findings and recommendations of the Conference.

Report.
15 USC 631 note.

AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

SEC. 8. (a) There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, and they shall remain available until expended. New spending authority or authority to enter contracts as provided in this Act shall be effective only to such extent and in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts.

15 USC 631 note.

(b) No funds appropriated to the Small Business Administration shall be made available to carry out the provisions of this Act other than funds appropriated specifically for the purpose of conducting the Conference. Any funds remaining unexpended at the termination of the Conference, including submission of the report pursuant to section 6, shall be returned to the Treasury of the United States and credited as miscellaneous receipts.

SEC. 9. This Act shall become effective October 1, 1984.

Effective date.
15 USC 631 note.

Approved May 8, 1984.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 5298 (S. 2487):

HOUSE REPORT No. 98-652 (Comm. on Small Business).
SENATE REPORT No. 98-380 accompanying S. 2487 (Comm. on Small Business).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 130 (1984):
Apr. 9, considered and passed House.
Apr. 11, considered and passed Senate.