

## S 3197

### Women's Small Business Ownership Act of 2012

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Commerce

**Introduced:** May 17, 2012

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. (text of measure as

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. (text of measure as

introduced: CR S3283-3286) (May 17, 2012)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/3197>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** ME • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]	D · LA		May 17, 2012
Sen. Brown, Scott P. [R-MA]	R · MA		Sep 13, 2012

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 17, 2012

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Commerce

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 S 3442	Related bill	Nov 29, 2012: Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held.
112 S 3572	Related bill	Sep 19, 2012: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Women's Small Business Ownership Act of 2012 - Amends the Small Business Act to direct the Office of Women's Business Ownership within the Small Business Administration (SBA) to address issues concerning the management, operations, manufacturing, technology, finance, retail and product sales, international trade, government contracting, and other disciplines required for starting, operating, and increasing the business of a small business. Authorizes the SBA Administrator to provide annual training for women's business ownership representatives to enable them to carry out such responsibilities.

Authorizes the Administrator to provide financial assistance to qualifying entities to conduct projects designed to provide training and counseling meeting the needs of women business owners, especially socially and economically disadvantaged women business owners. Provides assistance amounts of at least \$100,000 and up to \$150,000 per year. Directs the Administrator to consult with each association of women's business centers to develop: (1) a training program for the staff of such centers, and (2) recommendations to improve the policies and procedures for governing the general operations and administration of the women's business center program. Outlines application and other requirements for entities to receive assistance to conduct such projects. Directs the Administrator to solicit applications and award grants for the first fiscal year beginning after the enactment of this Act, and every third fiscal year thereafter. Provides for the review and approval of grant applications, as well as conditions for continued funding. Allows for multiple awards to the same entities.

Directs the Comptroller General (GAO) to study: (1) the unique economic issues facing women's business centers located in predominately rural, urban, or insular areas; and (2) SBA oversight of women's business centers.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **May 17, 2012:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 17, 2012:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3281-3282)
- **May 17, 2012:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3283-3286)