

S 121

Veterans Small Business Ownership Improvements Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Commerce

Introduced: Jan 12, 2017

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. (Jan 12, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/121>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Heller, Dean [R-NV]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Nov 9, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 12, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Commerce

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 5193	Related bill	Mar 8, 2018: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Veterans Small Business Ownership Improvements Act

This bill amends the Small Business Act to establish the Boots to Business Program under which the Small Business Administration (SBA) shall provide entrepreneurship training to:

- members of the Armed Forces,
- individuals participating in the Transition Assistance Program (Department of Defense),
- individuals who served on active duty and who were discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable, and
- their spouses or dependents.

The SBA shall establish: (1) a Women Veterans Business Training Program, and (2) a Business Training Program for Service Disabled Veterans.

The SBA shall establish a veterans' business outreach center program to provide financial assistance to educational institutions, veterans' nonprofit community-based organizations, and federal, state, and local departments and agencies to conduct renewable five-year projects for the benefit of small businesses owned and controlled by veterans.

An assisted entity shall establish or operate a veterans' business outreach center to provide veterans, service-disabled veterans, and reservists, as well as their spouses, and the spouses of active duty members of the Armed Forces with:

- financial, management, and marketing advice and training; and
- technical assistance and training for obtaining federal procurement opportunities.

The SBA may discontinue financial assistance to an entity at any time for poor performance.

The SBA shall designate at least one individual in each SBA district office as a veterans business development officer to coordinate district office activities with entities receiving financial assistance under this bill.

The SBA shall establish the Veterans Business Owners Initiative Pilot Program to provide grants to nonprofit entities for peer support groups that provide small business career training to:

- members of the Armed Forces,
- individuals participating in the Transition Assistance Program (Department of Defense),
- Reservists,
- veterans, and
- their spouses or dependents.

The SBA shall establish an online mechanism to assist veterans' assistance providers.

The SBA shall establish an online mechanism that serves as a one-stop online resource for veterans regarding SBA entrepreneurial development programs.

The SBA's duties are expanded to include making grants to, or entering into cooperative agreements with, nonprofit entities to operate federal contracting training programs for veteran-owned small businesses.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 12, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 12, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.