

HR 1680

Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2018

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Commerce

Introduced: Mar 22, 2017

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. (May 9, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1680>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Knight, Stephen [R-CA-25]

Party: Republican • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Lawson, Al, Jr. [D-FL-5]	D · FL		Mar 22, 2017
Rep. Murphy, Stephanie N. [D-FL-7]	D · FL		May 19, 2017
Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]	D · NJ		May 7, 2018
Rep. Comstock, Barbara [R-VA-10]	R · VA		May 8, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 9, 2018
Small Business Committee	House	Referred To	Mar 22, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Commerce

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 2810	Related bill	Dec 12, 2017: Became Public Law No: 115-91.
115 HR 1774	Related bill	Mar 29, 2017: Referred to the House Committee on Small Business.

Women's Business Centers Improvements Act of 2017

The bill revises the duties of the Office of Women's Business Ownership and declares it is the Office's mission to assist women entrepreneurs to start, grow, and compete in global markets by providing quality support with access to capital, access to markets, job creation, growth, and counseling.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) shall establish standards for a program to accredit eligible entities receiving a grant to operate one or more women's business centers.

These organizations shall be eligible to apply for such a grant:

- a tax-exempt charitable organization;
- a state, regional, or local economic development organization;
- an institution of higher education;
- a state-chartered development, credit, or finance corporation; or
- any combination of these.

Failure to obtain non-federal funding must be for two consecutive years before an eligible entity shall become ineligible for advance disbursements, or for any other SBA-funded project.

An SBA employee shall:

- make a prior site visit to any grant applicant to ensure that the applicant has sufficient resources to provide the services for which the grant is being made; and
- conduct an annual review of the entity's compliance with the grant agreement, including a financial examination.

An eligible entity whose review identifies problems shall develop a remedial plan of action for the Office to approve or amend, subject to appeal. The Office shall terminate any grant for failure of compliance with a plan of action.

Upon request by an eligible entity, the SBA may waive, in whole or in part, although not for more than two years, the requirement to obtain non-federal funds for a grant recipient's counseling and training activities.

Actions Timeline

- **May 9, 2018:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.
- **May 8, 2018:** Mr. Chabot moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **May 8, 2018:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H3801-3806)
- **May 8, 2018:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 1680.
- **May 8, 2018:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H3802-3805)
- **May 8, 2018:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H3802-3805)
- **May 8, 2018:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Mar 22, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 22, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Small Business.