

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 2655

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## AN ACT

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act—

6 (1) the term “Administrator” means the Ad-  
7 ministrator of the SBA;

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

11 (3) the term “SBA” means the Small Business  
12 Administration;

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

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

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

21 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

22 Congress finds that—

23 (1) the USPTO and the SBA are positioned  
24 to—

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

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

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

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

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

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

19 (A) domestic and international protection  
20 of intellectual property; and

21 (B) how such protections should be consid-  
22 ered in the business plans and growth strategies  
23 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.”.

Passed the House of Representatives July 10, 2018.

Attest:

*Clerk.*

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