

117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6450

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## AN ACT

To amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, 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 “SCORE for Small  
3 Business Act of 2022”.

4 **SEC. 2. SCORE PROGRAM PROVISIONS AND REQUIRE-**  
5 **MENTS.**

6 Section 8 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637)  
7 is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

9 (A) by striking “a Service Corps of Retired  
10 Executives (SCORE)” and inserting “the  
11 SCORE program described in subsection (c)”;  
12 and

13 (B) by striking “SCORE may” and insert-  
14 ing “the SCORE Association (as defined in  
15 subsection (c)) may”; and

16 (2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the  
17 following:

18 “(c) SCORE PROGRAM.—

19 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

20 “(A) SCORE ASSOCIATION.—The term  
21 ‘SCORE Association’ means the Service Corps  
22 of Retired Executives Association or any suc-  
23 cessor or other organization that enters into a  
24 cooperative agreement (as described under  
25 paragraph (2)) with the Administrator to oper-  
26 ate the SCORE program.

1           “(B) SCORE FOUNDATION.—The term  
2           ‘SCORE Foundation’ means an organization  
3           with a mission to support the SCORE Associa-  
4           tion and volunteers of the SCORE program.

5           “(C) SCORE PROGRAM.—The term  
6           ‘SCORE program’ means the SCORE program  
7           authorized by subsection (b)(1)(B).

8           “(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—The Admin-  
9           istrator shall enter into a cooperative agreement  
10          with the SCORE Association to carry out the  
11          SCORE program, which shall include the following  
12          requirements:

13           “(A) ADMINISTRATOR DUTIES.—The Ad-  
14          ministrators shall—

15           “(i) every 2 years, conduct a financial  
16           examination of the SCORE Association to  
17           ensure that any costs paid for with Federal  
18           funds are allowable, allocable, and reason-  
19           able;

20           “(ii) review and approve contracts en-  
21           tered into by the SCORE Association to  
22           provide goods or services for the SCORE  
23           program of a value greater than an  
24           amount determined by the Administrator;

1           “(iii) maintain a system through  
2           which the SCORE Association provides  
3           documentation relating to such contracts;  
4           and

5           “(iv) within 30 days of the receipt of  
6           a quarterly report on the achievements of  
7           the SCORE program submitted by the  
8           SCORE Association, reconcile differences  
9           between such report and the performance  
10          results of the SCORE program reported in  
11          a management information system of the  
12          Office of Entrepreneurial Development.

13          “(B) SCORE ASSOCIATION DUTIES.—The  
14          SCORE Association shall—

15                 “(i) manage nationwide chapters of  
16                 the SCORE program;

17                 “(ii) provide annual training to em-  
18                 ployees of the SCORE Association on gen-  
19                 erating and using program income from  
20                 the SCORE program;

21                 “(iii) submit documentation to the  
22                 Administrator verifying such annual train-  
23                 ing is completed;

24                 “(iv) separate funds donated to the  
25                 SCORE Association from program income

1 and funds received pursuant to a coopera-  
2 tive agreement; and

3 “(v) maintain and enforce require-  
4 ments for volunteers participating in the  
5 SCORE program, including requirements  
6 that each such volunteer shall—

7 “(I) based on the business expe-  
8 rience and knowledge of the volun-  
9 teer—

10 “(aa) provide personal coun-  
11 seling, mentoring, and coaching  
12 on the process of starting, ex-  
13 panding, managing, buying, and  
14 selling a business at no cost to  
15 individuals who own, or aspire to  
16 own, small business concerns;  
17 and

18 “(bb) facilitate free or low-  
19 cost education workshops for in-  
20 dividuals who own, or aspire to  
21 own, small business concerns;  
22 and

23 “(II) as appropriate, use tools,  
24 resources, and expertise of other orga-

1                   nizations to carry out the SCORE  
2                   program.

3                   “(C) JOINT DUTIES.—The Administrator,  
4                   in consultation with the SCORE Association,  
5                   shall ensure that the SCORE program and each  
6                   chapter of the SCORE program—

7                   “(i) develop and implement plans and  
8                   goals to effectively and efficiently provide  
9                   services to individuals in rural areas, eco-  
10                  nomically disadvantaged communities, or  
11                  other traditionally underserved commu-  
12                  nities, including plans for virtual, remote,  
13                  and web-based initiatives, chapter expan-  
14                  sion, partnerships, and the development of  
15                  new skills by volunteers participating in  
16                  the SCORE program; and

17                  “(ii) reinforce an inclusive culture by  
18                  recruiting diverse volunteers for the chap-  
19                  ters of the SCORE program.

20                  “(3) ONLINE COMPONENT.—In addition to pro-  
21                  viding in-person services, the SCORE Association  
22                  shall maintain and expand online counseling services  
23                  including webinars, electronic mentoring platforms,  
24                  and online toolkits to further support entrepreneurs.

1           “(4) ACCOUNTING.—The SCORE Association  
2 shall—

3           “(A) maintain a centralized accounting  
4 and financing system for each chapter of the  
5 SCORE program;

6           “(B) maintain a uniform policy and proce-  
7 dures to manage Federal funds received pursu-  
8 ant to a cooperative agreement described in  
9 paragraph (2); and

10           “(C) maintain an employee of the SCORE  
11 Association to serve as a compliance officer to  
12 ensure expenditures of the SCORE program are  
13 fully compliant with any law, regulation, or co-  
14 operative agreement relating to the SCORE  
15 program.

16           “(5) COMPENSATION.—

17           “(A) SALARIES.—The salary of an em-  
18 ployee of the SCORE Association may not ex-  
19 ceed the equivalent of the maximum rate of pay  
20 allowable for an individual in the career Senior  
21 Executive Service employed at the Administra-  
22 tion.

23           “(B) PERFORMANCE AWARDS.—The  
24 SCORE Association may spend up to 5 percent  
25 of the aggregate salaries of employees of the

1 SCORE Association on individual performance  
2 awards to employees of the SCORE Associa-  
3 tion, to be disbursed before the last day of the  
4 fiscal year, if not later than 60 days before such  
5 disbursement the SCORE Association submits  
6 to the Administrator a report on the number  
7 and amount of such awards to be disbursed.

8 “(C) SCORE FOUNDATION.—A member of  
9 the Board of Directors of the SCORE Associa-  
10 tion or an employee of the SCORE Association  
11 may not simultaneously serve on the Board of  
12 Directors of, or receive compensation from, the  
13 SCORE Foundation without written approval  
14 from the Administrator.

15 “(6) WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION REQUIRE-  
16 MENTS.—The SCORE Association shall—

17 “(A) annually update all manuals or other  
18 documents applicable to employees and volun-  
19 teers of the SCORE Association or the SCORE  
20 program to include requirements relating to re-  
21 porting procedures and protectors for whistle-  
22 blowers; and

23 “(B) conduct an annual training for em-  
24 ployees and volunteers of the SCORE Associa-  
25 tion or the SCORE program on the require-



1           ments described in paragraph (1) and encour-  
2           age the use of the hotline established by the Of-  
3           fice of the Inspector General of the Small Busi-  
4           ness Administration to submit whistleblower re-  
5           ports.

6           “(7) PUBLISHED MATERIALS.—The SCORE  
7           Association shall ensure all published materials in-  
8           clude written acknowledgment of Small Business Ad-  
9           ministration support of the SCORE program if such  
10          materials are paid for in whole or in part by Federal  
11          funds.

12          “(8) PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—

13                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Neither the Adminis-  
14                 trator nor the SCORE Association may disclose  
15                 the name, address, or telephone number of any  
16                 individual or small business concern receiving  
17                 assistance from the SCORE Association with-  
18                 out the consent of such individual or small busi-  
19                 ness concern, unless—

20                         “(i) the Administrator is ordered to  
21                         make such a disclosure by a court in any  
22                         civil or criminal enforcement action initi-  
23                         ated by a Federal or State agency; or

24                         “(ii) the Administrator determines  
25                         such a disclosure is necessary for the pur-

1 pose of conducting a financial audit of the  
2 SCORE program, in which case disclosure  
3 shall be limited to the information nec-  
4 essary for the audit.

5 “(B) ADMINISTRATOR USE OF INFORMA-  
6 TION.—This paragraph shall not—

7 “(i) restrict the access of the Adminis-  
8 trator to SCORE program activity data; or

9 “(ii) prevent the Administrator from  
10 using SCORE program client information  
11 to conduct client surveys.

12 “(C) STANDARDS.—

13 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator  
14 shall, after the opportunity for notice and  
15 comment, establish standards for—

16 “(I) disclosures with respect to  
17 financial audits described under sub-  
18 paragraph (A)(ii); and

19 “(II) conducting client surveys,  
20 including standards for oversight of  
21 the surveys and for dissemination and  
22 use of client information.

23 “(ii) MAXIMUM PRIVACY PROTEC-  
24 TION.—The standards issued under this  
25 subparagraph shall, to the extent prac-

1            ticable, provide for the maximum amount  
2            of privacy protection.

3            “(9) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180  
4            days after the date of the enactment of this sub-  
5            section and annually thereafter, the Administrator  
6            shall submit to the Committee on Small Business  
7            and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Com-  
8            mittee on Small Business of the House of Rep-  
9            resentatives a report on the performance and effec-  
10          tiveness of the SCORE program, which may be in-  
11          cluded as part of another report submitted to such  
12          Committees by the Administrator, and which shall  
13          include—

14                  “(A) the total number and the number of  
15                  unique clients counseled or trained under the  
16                  SCORE program;

17                  “(B) the number of hours of counseling  
18                  provided under the SCORE program;

19                  “(C) the number of local workshops pro-  
20                  vided under the SCORE program;

21                  “(D) the number of clients attending on-  
22                  line and local workshops provided under the  
23                  SCORE program;

24                  “(E) to the extent practicable, the demo-  
25                  graphics of SCORE program clients and volun-

1           teers, which shall include the gender, race, and  
2           age of each such client or volunteer;

3           “(F) with respect to businesses assisted  
4           under the SCORE program, the cost to create  
5           a job, the cost to create a business, and return  
6           on investment;

7           “(G) the number of referrals of SCORE  
8           program clients to other resources and pro-  
9           grams of the Administration;

10          “(H) the number of SCORE program cli-  
11          ents receiving financial assistance, including the  
12          type and dollar amount, under loan programs of  
13          the Administration;

14          “(I) the results of SCORE program client  
15          satisfactory surveys, including a summary of  
16          any comments received from such clients;

17          “(J) the number of new businesses started  
18          up by SCORE program clients;

19          “(K) the number of such new businesses  
20          realizing revenue growth;

21          “(L) to the extent practicable, the number  
22          of jobs created with assistance from the  
23          SCORE program;

24          “(M) the total cost of the SCORE pro-  
25          gram;

1           “(N) any recommendations of the Adminis-  
2           trator to improve the SCORE program; and

3           “(O) an explanation of how the SCORE  
4           program has been integrated with—

5                   “(i) small business development cen-  
6                   ters;

7                   “(ii) women’s business centers (de-  
8                   scribed under section 29);

9                   “(iii) Veteran Business Outreach Cen-  
10                  ters 20 (described under section 32);

11                  “(iv) other offices of the Administra-  
12                  tion; and

13                  “(v) other public and private entities  
14                  engaging in entrepreneurial and small  
15                  business development.”.

16 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE**  
17 **SCORE PROGRAM.**

18           Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631  
19 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new  
20 subsection:

21           “(i) SCORE PROGRAM.—There are authorized to be  
22 appropriated to the Administrator to carry out the  
23 SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1) such sums  
24 as are necessary for the Administrator to make grants or  
25 enter into cooperative agreements in a total amount that

1 does not exceed \$13,500,000 in each of fiscal years 2022  
2 and 2023.”.

3 **SEC. 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

4 (a) STUDY AND REPORT ON THE FUTURE ROLE OF  
5 THE SCORE PROGRAM.—

6 (1) STUDY.—The SCORE Association shall  
7 carry out a study on the future role of the SCORE  
8 program and develop a strategic plan for how the  
9 SCORE program will meet the needs of small busi-  
10 ness concerns during the 5-year period beginning on  
11 the date of the enactment of this Act, with specific  
12 objectives for the first, third, and fifth years of such  
13 5-year period.

14 (2) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 6-  
15 month period beginning on the date of the enact-  
16 ment of this Act, the SCORE Association shall sub-  
17 mit to the Committee on Small Business of the  
18 House of Representatives and the Committee on  
19 Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate  
20 a report containing—

21 (A) all findings and determination made in  
22 carrying out the study required under para-  
23 graph (1);

24 (B) the strategic plan developed under  
25 paragraph (1); and

1                   (C) an explanation of how the SCORE As-  
2                   sociation plans to achieve the strategic plan, as-  
3                   suming both stagnant and increased funding  
4                   levels.

5           (b) ADMINISTRATOR REPORT ON LEASED SPACE.—  
6 Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of  
7 this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Admin-  
8 istration shall submit to the Committee on Small Business  
9 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
10 Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a re-  
11 port containing an assessment of the cost of leased space  
12 that is donated to the SCORE Association.

13           (c) ONLINE COMPONENT REPORT.—Not later than  
14 3 months after the last day of the first full fiscal year  
15 following the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
16 SCORE Association shall submit to the Committee on  
17 Small Business of the House of Representatives and the  
18 Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of  
19 the Senate a report on the effectiveness of the online coun-  
20 seling services required under paragraph (3) of section  
21 8(c) of the Small Business Act, as added by section 2 of  
22 this Act, including a description of—

23                   (1) how the SCORE Association determines  
24                   electronic mentoring and webinar needs, develops  
25                   training for electronic mentoring, establishes

1 webinar criteria curricula, and evaluates webinar  
2 and electronic mentoring results;

3 (2) the internal controls that are used and a  
4 summary of the topics covered by the webinars; and

5 (3) performance metrics, including the number  
6 of small business concerns counseled by, the number  
7 of small business concerns created by, the number of  
8 jobs created and retained by, and the funding  
9 amounts directed towards such online counseling  
10 services.

11 **SEC. 5. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

12 (a) SMALL BUSINESS ACT.—The Small Business Act  
13 (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

14 (1) in section 7 (15 U.S.C. 636)—

15 (A) in subsection (b)(12)—

16 (i) in the paragraph heading, by in-  
17 serting “PROGRAM” after “SCORE”; and

18 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
19 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and  
20 inserting “SCORE program”; and

21 (B) in subsection (m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII), by  
22 striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives”  
23 and inserting “SCORE program”; and

24 (2) in section 22 (15 U.S.C. 649)—

25 (A) in subsection (b)—



1 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking  
2 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and  
3 inserting “SCORE program”; and

4 (ii) in paragraph (3), by striking  
5 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and  
6 inserting “SCORE program”; and

7 (B) in subsection (c)(12), by striking  
8 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and in-  
9 serting “SCORE program”.

10 (b) OTHER LAWS.—

11 (1) SMALL BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION ACT  
12 OF 1997.—Section 707 of the Small Business Reau-  
13 thorization Act of 1997 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is  
14 amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Ex-  
15 ecutives (SCORE) program” and inserting “SCORE  
16 program (as defined in section 8(c)(1) of the Small  
17 Business Act)”.

18 (2) VETERANS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND  
19 SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1999.—Sec-  
20 tion 301 of the Veterans Entrepreneurship and  
21 Small Business Development Act of 1999 (15 U.S.C.  
22 657b note) is amended by striking “Service Core of  
23 Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE pro-  
24 gram”.

1           (3) MILITARY RESERVIST AND VETERAN SMALL  
2 BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION AND OPPORTUNITY  
3 ACT OF 2008.—Section 3(5) of the Military Reservist  
4 and Veteran Small Business Reauthorization and  
5 Opportunity Act of 2008 (15 U.S.C. 636 note) is  
6 amended by striking “the Service Corps of Retired  
7 Executives” and inserting “the SCORE program”.

8           (4) CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM  
9 REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2009.—Section 621 of the  
10 Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthoriza-  
11 tion Act of 2009 (15 U.S.C. 657p) is amended—

12                   (A) in subsection (a), by striking para-  
13 graph (4) and inserting the following:

14                   “(4) the term ‘SCORE program’ means the  
15 SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1)(B)  
16 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.  
17 637(b)(1)(B));”; and

18                   (B) in subsection (b)(4)(A)(iv), by striking  
19 “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and in-  
20 serting “SCORE program”.

21           (5) ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION  
22 ACT.—Section 337(d)(2)(A) of the Energy Policy  
23 and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6307(d)(2)(A)) is  
24 amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Ex-

1 executives (SCORE)” and inserting “SCORE pro-  
2 gram”.

3 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) ADMINISTRATION; ADMINISTRATOR.—The  
6 terms “Administration” and “Administrator” mean,  
7 respectively, the Small Business Administration and  
8 the Administrator thereof.

9 (2) SCORE ASSOCIATION; SCORE PROGRAM.—  
10 The terms “SCORE Association” and “SCORE pro-  
11 gram” have the meaning given those terms, respec-  
12 tively, under section 8(c)(1) of the Small Business  
13 Act, as added by section 2 of this Act.

Passed the House of Representatives April 26, 2022.

Attest:

*Clerk.*

117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

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# H. R. 6450

## AN ACT

To amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes.