

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 83

To authorize the National Science Foundation to support entrepreneurial programs for women.

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 10, 2017

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. HELLER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

---

## A BILL

To authorize the National Science Foundation to support entrepreneurial programs for women.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Promoting Women in  
5 Entrepreneurship Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

8 (1) women make up almost 50 percent of the  
9 workforce, but less than 25 percent of the workforce

1 in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics  
2 (STEM) professions;

3 (2) women are less likely to focus on the STEM  
4 disciplines in undergraduate and graduate study;

5 (3) only 26 percent of women who do attain de-  
6 grees in STEM fields work in STEM jobs;

7 (4) there is an increasing demand for individ-  
8 uals with STEM degrees to extend their focus be-  
9 yond the laboratory so they can be leaders in dis-  
10 covery commercialization;

11 (5) studies have shown that technology and  
12 commercialization ventures are successful when  
13 women are in top management positions; and

14 (6) the National Science Foundation's mission  
15 includes supporting women in STEM disciplines.

16 **SEC. 3. SUPPORTING WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURIAL PRO-**  
17 **GRAMS.**

18 Section 33 of the Science and Engineering Equal Op-  
19 portunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885a) is amended—

20 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph  
21 (10);

22 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-  
23 graph (11) and inserting “; and”; and

24 (3) by adding at the end the following new  
25 paragraph:

1           “(12) encourage its entrepreneurial programs to  
2           recruit and support women to extend their focus be-  
3           yond the laboratory and into the commercial  
4           world.”.

○