

## Union Calendar No. 26

119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1816

[Report No. 119-37]

To establish requirements relating to certification of small business concerns owned and controlled by women for certain purposes, and for other purposes.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 3, 2025

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Mr. LALOTA) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

MARCH 24, 2025

Additional sponsors: Ms. GOODLANDER and Mr. FITZPATRICK

MARCH 24, 2025

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union  
and ordered to be printed

# **A BILL**

To establish requirements relating to certification of small business concerns owned and controlled by women for certain purposes, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This Act may be cited as the “WOSB Accountability  
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF SELF-CERTIFIED SMALL BUSINESS**  
7                    **CONCERNS OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY**  
8                    **WOMEN FROM GOALS.**

9        (a) EXCLUSION OF SELF-CERTIFIED WOSBs FROM  
10 GOVERNMENTWIDE AND AGENCY GOALS.—

11                (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 15(g) of the Small  
12 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(g)) is amended by add-  
13 ing at the end the following new paragraph:

14                “(4) EXCLUSION OF SELF-CERTIFIED WOSBS  
15 FROM GOALS.—Only small business concerns owned  
16 and controlled by women that have been certified  
17 under section 8(m)(2)(E) shall be included in calcu-  
18 lating the goals established—

19                        “(A) under paragraph (1)(A)(v); and

20                        “(B) by the head of a Federal agency for  
21 small business concerns owned and controlled  
22 by women under paragraph (2).”.

23                (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made  
24 by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the first day  
25 after the end of the second fiscal year beginning

1 after the Administrator issues the regulations re-  
2 quired under subsection (b)(2).

3 (b) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO SELF-CERTIFIED  
4 WOSBS.—

5 (1) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN SELF-CERTIFIED  
6 WOSBS IN GOALS.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any  
8 other provision of law, a small business concern  
9 described in subparagraph (B) shall be deemed  
10 to have been certified by the Administrator or  
11 a national certifying entity approved by the Ad-  
12 ministrator under section 8(m) of the Small  
13 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(m)) as a small  
14 business concern owned and controlled by  
15 women under paragraph (2)(E) of such section  
16 (15 U.S.C. 637(m)(2)(E)) for the purposes of  
17 calculating the goals described in paragraph (4)  
18 of section 15(g) of the such Act (as added by  
19 subsection (a) of this Act) until the Adminis-  
20 trator or such a national certifying entity make  
21 a determination with respect to the certification  
22 of such concern.

23 (B) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS DE-  
24 SCRIBED.—A small business concern described

1 in this subparagraph is a small business con-  
2 cern—

3 (i) that is self-certified as a small  
4 business concern owned and controlled by  
5 women as of the date on which the amend-  
6 ments made by subsection (a) take effect;

7 (ii) that files a certification applica-  
8 tion with the Administrator or a national  
9 certifying entity approved by the Adminis-  
10 trator under section 8(m) of the Small  
11 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(m)) prior to  
12 such date; and

13 (iii) for which the Administrator or  
14 such a national certifying entity does not  
15 make a determination prior to such date  
16 regarding certification pursuant to such  
17 certification application.

18 (2) RULEMAKING.—Not later than one year  
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Ad-  
20 ministrator shall issue regulations carrying out this  
21 section.

22 (c) QUARTERLY BRIEFINGS REQUIRED.—Not later  
23 than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act  
24 and on a quarterly basis thereafter until the date specified  
25 in subsection (b), the Administrator shall provide to the

1 Committee on Small Business of the House of Representa-  
2 tives and the Committee Small Business and Entrepre-  
3 neurship of the Senate a briefing on the implementation  
4 of the requirements of this section. Such briefings shall  
5 include—

6 (1) the total number of small business concerns  
7 expected to seek certification as a small business  
8 concern owned and controlled by women;

9 (2) the number of applications for certification  
10 pending with the Administrator or a national certi-  
11 fying entity approved by the Administrator under  
12 section 8(m) of the Small Business Act during the  
13 period covered by the briefing;

14 (3) the total number of applications approved  
15 by the Administrator or such a national certifying  
16 entity since the date of the enactment of this Act;

17 (4) the timelines associated with processing  
18 such applications by the Administrator or such a na-  
19 tional certifying entity between submission and ap-  
20 proval;

21 (5) the administrative costs to the Administra-  
22 tion to make determinations on such applications  
23 and the estimated cost to such applicant to seek cer-  
24 tification from a national certifying entity;

1           (6) a discussion of the Administrator’s current  
2           and future outreach efforts to small business con-  
3           cerns owned and controlled by women and to Fed-  
4           eral agencies on the requirements of this Act; and

5           (7) recommendations for additional legislative  
6           authority or resources required to fully implement  
7           the requirements of this Act.

8           (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9           (1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term “Administra-  
10          tion” means the Small Business Administration.

11          (2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-  
12          trator” means the Administrator of the Small Busi-  
13          ness Administration.

14          (3) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—The term  
15          “small business concern” has the meaning given  
16          under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15  
17          U.S.C. 632).

18          (4) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN OWNED AND  
19          CONTROLLED BY WOMEN.—The term “small busi-  
20          ness concern owned and controlled by women” has  
21          the meaning given the term in section 8(m) of the  
22          Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(m)).

23          (e) COMPLIANCE WITH CUTGO.—No additional  
24          amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
25          this Act or the amendments made by this Act.

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119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> Session

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