

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7396

To establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 2026

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas (for herself, Mr. ELLZEY, Ms. MORRISON, and Mr. CRANE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration, 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 “Native American En-
5 trepreneurial Opportunity Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. OFFICE OF NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS.**

7 The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is
8 amended—

9 (1) by redesignating section 49 (15 U.S.C. 631
10 note) as section 50; and

1 (2) by inserting after section 48 (15 U.S.C.
2 657u) the following:

3 **“SEC. 49. OFFICE OF NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS.**

4 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 “(1) ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.—The term
6 ‘Assistant Administrator’ means the Assistant Ad-
7 ministrators for Native American Affairs appointed
8 under subsection (c).

9 “(2) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’
10 has the meaning given the term ‘Indian tribe’ in sec-
11 tion 8(a)(13).

12 “(3) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION.—The
13 term ‘Native Hawaiian Organization’ has the mean-
14 ing given the term in section 8(a)(15).

15 “(4) OFFICE.—The term ‘Office’ means the Of-
16 fice of Native American Affairs described in this sec-
17 tion.

18 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established within
20 the Administration the Office of Native American
21 Affairs, which shall be responsible for establishing a
22 working relationship with Indian Tribes and Native
23 Hawaiian Organizations by targeting programs of
24 the Administration relating to entrepreneurial devel-
25 opment, contracting, and capital access to—

1 “(A) establish or expand small business
2 concerns owned and controlled by individuals
3 who are members of Indian Tribes or Native
4 Hawaiian Organizations; and

5 “(B) promote economic development in In-
6 dian country (as defined in section 1151 of title
7 18, United States Code).

8 “(2) CONNECTION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS.—
9 To the extent reasonable, the Office shall educate
10 Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian Organizations
11 about programs administered by other Federal agen-
12 cies related to the interests described in paragraph
13 (1).

14 “(c) ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.—The Office shall
15 be headed by an Assistant Administrator for Native Amer-
16 ican Affairs, who shall—

17 “(1) be appointed by and report to the Admin-
18 istrator;

19 “(2) have knowledge of Native American cul-
20 tures and experience providing culturally tailored
21 small business development assistance to Native
22 Americans;

23 “(3) provide assistance to Indian Tribes and
24 Native Hawaiian Organizations and small business
25 concerns owned and controlled by individuals who

1 are members of Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian
2 Organizations;

3 “(4) formulate policies, and promote policies
4 and existing programs, to better address the entre-
5 preneurial, capital access, business development, and
6 contracting needs of persons described in paragraph
7 (3);

8 “(5) collaborate with Associate Administrators
9 within the Administration and officials of other Fed-
10 eral agencies to develop policies and plans to imple-
11 ment programs of the Administration to holistically
12 address the needs described in paragraph (4);

13 “(6) provide assistance, including grants, con-
14 tracts, cooperative agreements, or other financial as-
15 sistance, to Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian Or-
16 ganizations, or to private nonprofit organizations
17 governed by members of Indian Tribes or Native
18 Hawaiian Organizations that have the experience
19 and capability to use the assistance to—

20 “(A) deploy training, counseling, work-
21 shops, educational outreach, and supplier
22 events; and

23 “(B) access the entrepreneurial, capital,
24 and contracting programs of the Administra-
25 tion;

1 “(7) assist the Administrator in conducting, or
2 conduct, Tribal consultation to solicit input and fa-
3 cilitate discussion of potential modifications to pro-
4 grams and procedures of the Administration; and

5 “(8) recommend annual budgets for the Office.

6 “(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—On an annual basis
7 until the termination date, the Assistant Administrator
8 shall submit to Congress a report on the effectiveness of
9 the Office of Native American Affairs that includes the
10 number of clients served in Tribal communities, the num-
11 ber of consultations conducted, and the number of
12 trainings held in Tribal country.

13 “(e) TERMINATION.—The authority under this sec-
14 tion shall terminate 7 years after the date of the enact-
15 ment of this section.”.

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