

Union Calendar No. 424

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7396

[Report No. 119-498]

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

FEBRUARY 17, 2026

Additional sponsor: Ms. SCHOLTEN

FEBRUARY 17, 2026

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

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

11 (2) by inserting after section 48 (15 U.S.C.
12 657u) the following:

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

14 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 “(1) ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR.—The term
16 ‘Assistant Administrator’ means the Assistant Ad-
17 ministrator for Native American Affairs appointed
18 under subsection (c).

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

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

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

4 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established within
6 the Administration the Office of Native American
7 Affairs, which shall be responsible for establishing a
8 working relationship with Indian Tribes and Native
9 Hawaiian Organizations by targeting programs of
10 the Administration relating to entrepreneurial devel-
11 opment, contracting, and capital access to—

12 “(A) establish or expand small business
13 concerns owned and controlled by individuals
14 who are members of Indian Tribes or Native
15 Hawaiian Organizations; and

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

19 “(2) CONNECTION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS.—
20 To the extent reasonable, the Office shall educate
21 Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian Organizations
22 about programs administered by other Federal agen-
23 cies related to the interests described in paragraph
24 (1).

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

4 “(1) be appointed by and report to the Admin-
5 istrator;

6 “(2) have knowledge of Native American cul-
7 tures and experience providing culturally tailored
8 small business development assistance to Native
9 Americans;

10 “(3) provide assistance to Indian Tribes and
11 Native Hawaiian Organizations and small business
12 concerns owned and controlled by individuals who
13 are members of Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian
14 Organizations;

15 “(4) formulate policies, and promote policies
16 and existing programs, to better address the entre-
17 preneurial, capital access, business development, and
18 contracting needs of persons described in paragraph
19 (3);

20 “(5) collaborate with Associate Administrators
21 within the Administration and officials of other Fed-
22 eral agencies to develop policies and plans to imple-
23 ment programs of the Administration to holistically
24 address the needs described in paragraph (4);

1 “(6) provide assistance, including grants, con-
2 tracts, cooperative agreements, or other financial as-
3 sistance, to Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian Or-
4 ganizations, or to private nonprofit organizations
5 governed by members of Indian Tribes or Native
6 Hawaiian Organizations that have the experience
7 and capability to use the assistance to—

8 “(A) deploy training, counseling, work-
9 shops, educational outreach, and supplier
10 events; and

11 “(B) access the entrepreneurial, capital,
12 and contracting programs of the Administra-
13 tion;

14 “(7) assist the Administrator in conducting, or
15 conduct, Tribal consultation to solicit input and fa-
16 cilitate discussion of potential modifications to pro-
17 grams and procedures of the Administration; and

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

19 “(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—On an annual basis
20 until the termination date, the Assistant Administrator
21 shall submit to Congress a report on the effectiveness of
22 the Office of Native American Affairs that includes the
23 number of clients served in Tribal communities, the num-
24 ber of consultations conducted, and the number of
25 trainings held in Tribal country.

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

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