

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 389

To establish a Next Generation Entrepreneurship Corps program within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 23, 2021

Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

A BILL

To establish a Next Generation Entrepreneurship Corps program 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 “Next Generation En-
5 trepreneurship Corps Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

1 (1) the United States has a successful fellow-
 2 ship for building the next generation of public serv-
 3 ants; and

4 (2) with the devastation facing small businesses
 5 in the United States as a result of the novel 2019
 6 Coronavirus (COVID–19), rebuilding Main Street
 7 will require a new generation of entrepreneurial tal-
 8 ent with the backing of the Federal Government.

9 **SEC. 3. NEXT GENERATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP CORPS**
 10 **PROGRAM.**

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

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

15 (2) by inserting after section 48 (15 U.S.C.
 16 657u) the following:

17 **“SEC. 49. NEXT GENERATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP CORPS**
 18 **PROGRAM.**

19 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

20 “(1) the term ‘Committee’ means the selection
 21 committee established under subsection (k);

22 “(2) the term ‘community development financial
 23 institution’ has the meaning given the term in sec-
 24 tion 103 of the Riegle Community Development and

1 Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 (12 U.S.C.
2 4702));

3 “(3) the term ‘distressed region’ means any
4 census tract or other area that is treated as a low-
5 income community for purposes of section 45D of
6 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

7 “(4) the term ‘equity investment’—

8 “(A) means an investment for an owner-
9 ship interest in an entity, the financial return
10 with respect to which is principally aligned with
11 the financial return of the plurality of owner-
12 ship interests in the entity; and

13 “(B) includes a debt instrument that can
14 be converted to an equity ownership interest in
15 an entity based on future events;

16 “(5) the term ‘fellow’ means an individual par-
17 ticipating as a fellow under the Program;

18 “(6) the term ‘minority depository institution’
19 has the meaning given the term in section 308 of the
20 Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and En-
21 forcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 1463 note);

22 “(7) the term ‘Program’ means the Next Gen-
23 eration Entrepreneurship Corps Program established
24 under subsection (b);

1 “(8) the term ‘qualified investor’ means a per-
2 son that—

3 “(A) invests equity in a small business
4 concern owned and operated under the Program
5 by a fellow; and

6 “(B) has not more than \$250,000,000 in
7 assets;

8 “(9) the term ‘SCORE’ means the Service
9 Corps of Retired Executives established under sec-
10 tion 8(b)(1)(B);

11 “(10) the term ‘State’ means any State of the
12 United States, the District of Columbia, and any
13 territory of the United States;

14 “(11) the term ‘veteran business outreach cen-
15 ter’ means a veteran business outreach center de-
16 scribed in section 32; and

17 “(12) the term ‘women’s business center’ means
18 a women’s business center operating pursuant to
19 section 29.

20 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established within
22 the Administration an independent fellowship pilot
23 program to be known as the ‘Next Generation En-
24 trepreneurship Corps Program’ to foster entrepre-
25 neurship in the most distressed regions of the

1 United States, including distressed regions affected
2 by the COVID–19 pandemic.

3 “(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The Program shall be
4 administered by the Office of Entrepreneurial Devel-
5 opment of the Administration.

6 “(3) AUTHORIZATION.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Under the Program,
8 there shall be 1 group of fellows selected each
9 year for 5 years of the Program, with each
10 group serving for a 2-year period.

11 “(B) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year
12 after the second group of fellows is selected
13 under the Program, and every 2 years there-
14 after, the Committee shall submit to Congress
15 an evaluation of the Program, along with any
16 recommendations and options to expand the
17 Program and make the Program permanent.

18 “(4) THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTS.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Office of Entre-
20 preneurial Development of the Administration
21 may contract with third-party nonprofit organi-
22 zations that—

23 “(i) do or plan to do service work to
24 execute the Program; and

1 “(ii) the Committee determines have
2 relevant experience to carry out the Pro-
3 gram.

4 “(B) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days
5 after the date of enactment of the Next Genera-
6 tion Entrepreneurship Corps Act, the Adminis-
7 trator shall submit to Congress a report on—

8 “(i) the requirements and plans relat-
9 ing to third-party contractors described in
10 subparagraph (A); and

11 “(ii) how those third-party contractors
12 will begin to carry out the Program.

13 “(5) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than
14 90 days after the date of enactment of the Next
15 Generation Entrepreneurship Corps Act, the Admin-
16 istrator shall submit to Congress a report discussing
17 the plan of the Administrator to implement this sec-
18 tion, which shall include a discussion of—

19 “(A) how the Administrator will provide
20 administrative support to the Committee;

21 “(B) the plan of the Administrator to co-
22 ordinate the implementation of the Program
23 with the Committee; and

24 “(C) the status of the appointment of
25 members of the Committee.

1 “(c) STIPENDS.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each fiscal year, the Com-
3 mittee may select not more than 320 fellows to par-
4 ticipate in the Program and receive a 2-year stipend
5 of \$120,000 to start and grow a new small business
6 concern.

7 “(2) AUTHORITY TO REJECT.—The Assistant
8 Administrator of the Office of Entrepreneurial De-
9 velopment of the Administration shall have the au-
10 thority to reject any fellow selected by the Com-
11 mittee to participate in the Program.

12 “(3) ALLOWABLE USES.—The Committee shall
13 determine the allowable uses of a stipend awarded
14 under this subsection.

15 “(4) STIPEND AMOUNT.—The amount of a sti-
16 pend made under this subsection shall be adjusted
17 every 3 years to reflect increases in the Consumer
18 Price Index for All Urban Consumers during that
19 period.

20 “(5) APPLICATIONS.—Each applicant for a sti-
21 pend under this subsection shall—

22 “(A) propose a small business concern idea
23 that will be located in a distressed region; and

24 “(B) submit to the Committee a small
25 business concern plan that demonstrates—

1 “(i) that the applicant will have pri-
2 mary decision making authority in the
3 small business concern;

4 “(ii) a need for the small business
5 concern of the applicant in the community
6 or how the small business concern solves
7 an economic or social problem in the area
8 to be served by the small business concern
9 or the United States;

10 “(iii) how the applicant plans to build
11 their small business concern to employ
12 local talent in entry-level and mid-level po-
13 sitions to ensure quality job growth;

14 “(iv) a vision for long-term growth in
15 the area to be served by the small business
16 concern; and

17 “(v) that the applicant does not, at
18 the time of application, have the resources
19 to start and grow a small business concern
20 on their own without assistance.

21 “(6) REQUIREMENTS.—To receive a stipend
22 under this subsection, the applicant shall—

23 “(A) live or be willing to relocate to live in
24 the distressed region in which the small busi-

ness concern of the applicant is located, as determined by the Committee;

“(B) indicate that the applicant intends to provide products or services to such distressed region through such small business concern; and

“(C) agree to make a good faith effort to, if the applicant is hiring employees during the period of participation in the Program or the 3 years following such participation, hire—

“(i) locally from distressed regions in the area served by the business of the applicant;

“(ii) racial or ethnic minorities;

“(iii) persons with criminal convictions; or

“(iv) the hard to employ.

“(7) PREFERENCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall give preference to applicants for a stipend under this subsection that are—

“(i) individuals moving to a distressed region to encourage new small business concern owners in those areas post-COVID-19;

1 “(ii) individuals who can demonstrate
2 a connection to the State or locality in
3 which the proposed small business concern
4 will be located;

5 “(iii) owners of small business con-
6 cerns whose businesses were closed or who
7 had to significant change their business
8 model or services due to the COVID–19
9 public health crisis;

10 “(iv) entrepreneurs within populations
11 underrepresented among small business
12 concern owners in the United States, in-
13 cluding women and racial and ethnic mi-
14 nority groups;

15 “(v) veterans;

16 “(vi) individuals who can demonstrate
17 residence of not less than 2 years in a low-
18 income census tract;

19 “(vii) individuals who have taken non-
20 traditional pathways for professional devel-
21 opment, including individuals without a
22 bachelor’s degree or who received Federal
23 Pell Grants under section 401 of the High-
24 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
25 1070a), who shall not be required to estab-

lish a small business concern in a distressed region; or

“(viii) individuals with business plans that have potential, if successful, to be eligible for any contracting assistance program of the Administration, including the business development program under section 8(a), the Women Owned Small Business Federal contracting program under section 8(m), the service-disabled veteran-owned small business program under section 36, and the HUBZone program under section 31.

“(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—When evaluating applicants for a stipend under this subsection, the Committee—

“(i) shall differentiate between applicants for a stipend under this subsection that aim to be a high-growth startup and a traditional small business concern;

“(ii) shall consider similar categories of applicants concurrently;

“(iii) should seek to encourage both high-growth and traditional startups across all geographic areas; and

1 “(iv) shall—

2 “(I) not prioritize applicants with
3 prior experience with starting and
4 growing a small business concern over
5 applications without that experience;
6 and

7 “(II) give equal consideration to
8 applicants with and without the expe-
9 rience described in subclause (I).

10 “(C) ADDITIONAL METRICS.—The Com-
11 mittee shall establish additional metrics by
12 which to evaluate applicants for a stipend under
13 this subsection, including by creating local and
14 State level applicant competitions.

15 “(8) NEW ENTREPRENEURS.—The Committee
16 may award stipends under this subsection to appli-
17 cants both at the beginning stages of building their
18 small business concern as well as to applicants who
19 have had limited prior business experience.

20 “(9) NUMBER OF FELLOWS PER SCORE CHAP-
21 TER.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each year, the Com-
23 mittee shall, to the maximum extent prac-
24 ticable, designate 1 fellow per SCORE chapter
25 in the United States, provided that the selection

1 process under this subsection remains competi-
 2 tive.

3 “(B) DISTRIBUTION.—The Committee
 4 shall ensure a fair geographic distribution of
 5 fellows selected under this subsection, including
 6 between urban and rural areas, and may create
 7 a process for ensuring that distribution if the
 8 Committee determines necessary.

9 “(d) BENEFITS.—

10 “(1) STUDENT LOAN DEFERMENT.—For each
 11 fellow who notifies the Committee that the fellow
 12 has a loan made, insured, or guaranteed under part
 13 B, D, or E of title IV of the Higher Education Act
 14 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1071 et seq.; 1087a et seq.;
 15 1087aa et seq.) that is in repayment—

16 “(A) the Committee shall—

17 “(i) inform the Secretary of Edu-
 18 cation that the fellow is participating in a
 19 fellowship through the Program; and

20 “(ii) provide any additional informa-
 21 tion requested by the Secretary of Edu-
 22 cation regarding the fellow and the loan;
 23 and

24 “(B) the Secretary of Education shall, for
 25 the period of the fellowship—

1 “(i) in the case of a loan made under
 2 part B or E of title IV of the Higher Edu-
 3 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1071 et
 4 seq.; 1087aa et seq.), require that the
 5 holder of the loan place the loan in
 6 deferment, in which interest shall accrue
 7 and be paid by the Secretary, in the same
 8 manner as a deferment made under section
 9 428(b)(1)(M) of the Higher Education Act
 10 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078(b)(1)(M)); and

11 “(ii) in the case of a loan made under
 12 part D of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1087a et
 13 seq.), place the loan in deferment, during
 14 which interest shall not accrue, in the
 15 same manner as a deferment made under
 16 section 455(f)(1) of such Act (20 U.S.C.
 17 1087e(f)(1)) for a Federal Direct Stafford
 18 Loan under such part.

19 “(2) HEALTH CARE.—With respect to any fel-
 20 low that is not otherwise covered under a health care
 21 policy, the Administrator shall provide or make
 22 available a basic health care policy in accordance
 23 with section 140(d) of the National and Community
 24 Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12594(d)) for the 2-

1 year period during which the fellow serves under the
2 Program.

3 “(e) MENTOR SUPPORT.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each fellow—

5 “(A) shall be assigned by the designated
6 SCORE chapter of the fellow a local mentor,
7 and the designated SCORE chapter may work
8 in partnership with a small business develop-
9 ment center, a veteran business outreach cen-
10 ter, a women’s business center, or other local
11 resources to pair the fellow with a mentor and
12 provide mentorship;

13 “(B) following completion of the Program
14 is encouraged to join SCORE, a small business
15 development center, a veteran business outreach
16 center, or a women’s business center to con-
17 tribute back to the Program and facilitate part-
18 nerships with local resource partners of the Ad-
19 ministration; and

20 “(C) shall be assigned by the Committee a
21 mentor from the Next Generation Entrepre-
22 neurship Corps Board, which shall be created
23 by the Committee and consist of notable chief
24 executive officers of companies and venture cap-

1 italists from across the United States to help
2 advise fellows.

3 “(2) PARTNERSHIP.—The Committee shall de-
4 velop a partnership with the mentor-protege pro-
5 gram for small business concerns eligible to receive
6 contracts pursuant to section 8(a) to assign a men-
7 tor during the second year of the fellowship to any
8 fellow that has proposed a small business concern
9 that may be eligible to receive contracts pursuant to
10 section 8(a).

11 “(3) RESOURCES.—In providing mentorship
12 under paragraph (1), each resource partner de-
13 scribed in that paragraph shall engage the resources
14 of the Administration in each State, including
15 through partnerships with community organizations.

16 “(4) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
17 Congress that—

18 “(A) in addition to the mentor assigned
19 under paragraph (1)(A), the Committee should
20 make a good faith effort to pair each fellow
21 with a mentor located in the region in which
22 the designated SCORE chapter of the fellow is
23 located; and

1 “(B) fellows should be encouraged to be-
2 come mentors under the Program after comple-
3 tion of their participation in the Program.

4 “(f) IMMERSIVE INITIAL TRAINING.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each fellow shall attend an
6 immersive training course designed by the Com-
7 mittee at the beginning of the fellowship, which
8 shall—

9 “(A) provide distinct education materials,
10 including resources and information, for all fel-
11 lows on high-growth startups and distinct edu-
12 cation materials for all fellows on traditional
13 small business concerns;

14 “(B) incorporate skills building, transfer of
15 business know-how when beginning a small
16 business concern, and a discussion of resources
17 of the Administration; and

18 “(C) include information on local resources
19 available from SCORE, small business develop-
20 ment centers, veteran business outreach cen-
21 ters, and women’s business centers.

22 “(2) SELECTION OF HOSTS.—Each year, the
23 Committee shall select not more than 1 small busi-
24 ness resource partner to host the immersive training
25 course described in paragraph (1).

1 “(g) NETWORK BUILDING.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To foster connections
3 across the United States with other innovators, each
4 fellow—

5 “(A) shall attend not less than 1 small
6 business concern-related conference per year of
7 the fellowship; and

8 “(B) is encouraged to attend regional
9 small business concern-related conferences.

10 “(2) COMMITTEE.—The Committee—

11 “(A) is encouraged to—

12 “(i) introduce and foster relationships
13 between Federal, State, and local entrepre-
14 neurial support organizations and the fel-
15 lows; and

16 “(ii) work to build a peer to peer net-
17 work among the fellows by providing re-
18 sources for events for fellows in order to
19 build community among fellows; and

20 “(B) may use funds received by the organi-
21 zation described in subsection (k)(5)(D) for
22 purposes described in subparagraph (A)(ii).

23 “(h) ACCESS TO CAPITAL STRATEGY.—

24 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall
 2 establish a strategy for access to capital, insur-
 3 ance, and other core small business concern
 4 services and products, for use both during and
 5 after the Program, for fellows that provides for
 6 the needs of both traditional small business
 7 concerns and high-growth startups.

8 “(B) REQUIREMENTS.—Under the strat-
 9 egy established under subparagraph (A), the
 10 Committee shall—

11 “(i) provide to each fellow information
 12 regarding the program under section 8(a)
 13 and assistance in submitting the informa-
 14 tion required for the small business con-
 15 cern of the fellow to be certified to partici-
 16 pate in the program; and

17 “(ii) at the end of each fellowship,
 18 provide follow-up assistance to facilitate
 19 the certification of the small business con-
 20 cern of the fellow to participate in the pro-
 21 gram under section 8(a).

22 “(2) MATCHING.—Under the strategy estab-
 23 lished under paragraph (1), the Committee shall
 24 match fellows with a full range of lenders, investors,

1 and insurers, including both local and national re-
2 sources.

3 “(3) PREFERENCE.—The Administrator may
4 give preference to fellows with respect to loans under
5 section 7(a), microloans under section 7(m), and as-
6 sistance provided under title V of the Small Busi-
7 ness Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.)
8 to facilitate quick and affordable access to credit
9 during the period of the fellowship and during the
10 5-year period after the end of the fellowship, includ-
11 ing by—

12 “(A) waiving the credit elsewhere require-
13 ment; and

14 “(B) expediting the application timeline for
15 that assistance.

16 “(4) WAIVER OF PERSONAL GUARANTEE.—
17 With respect to high growth startup small business
18 concerns established by fellows, the Administrator
19 shall waive the personal guarantee requirement for
20 those small business concerns that apply for loans
21 under section 7(a), microloans under section 7(m),
22 or assistance provided under title V of the Small
23 Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et
24 seq.).

1 “(5) ASSISTANCE WITH ACCESS TO THE 8(a)
2 PROGRAM.—For purposes of participation in the
3 program under section 8(a)—

4 “(A) a small business concern of a fellow
5 shall be eligible to seek certification to partici-
6 pate in the program under section 8(a) if the
7 small business concern has been in business in
8 the primary industry classification of the small
9 business concern for at least 18 months; and

10 “(B) the Administrator—

11 “(i) shall evaluate whether to estab-
12 lish an expedited process for certification
13 of a small business concern of a fellow to
14 participate in the program under section
15 8(a); and

16 “(ii) may implement a process de-
17 scribed in clause (i) for fellows during the
18 period of the fellowship and during the 5-
19 year period after the end of the fellowship.

20 “(i) PROGRAM FUND FOR CAPITAL.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the
22 Treasury a fund, which shall be available to the Ad-
23 ministrator to provide loans to qualified investors.

24 “(2) AMOUNT OF LOANS.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A loan to a qualified
 2 investor under this subsection shall be not more
 3 than 66.6 percent of the amount of equity the
 4 qualified investor invested in the applicable
 5 small business concern owned and operated
 6 under the Program by a fellow.

7 “(B) ESTABLISHMENT OF LOAN LIMITS.—
 8 The Administrator may establish additional lim-
 9 its on the maximum amount of loans to quali-
 10 fied investors under this subsection if the Ad-
 11 ministrator determines the limits are necessary
 12 to ensure that the Administrator may make
 13 such loans during the full period of the Pro-
 14 gram, using the amounts made available for
 15 such loans.

16 “(3) LOAN TERM.—A loan under this sub-
 17 section shall have a maturity of not longer than 30
 18 years.

19 “(4) RATE OF INTEREST.—The rate of interest
 20 on a loan under this subsection shall be equal to the
 21 discount window primary credit interest rate most
 22 recently published on the Federal Reserve Statistical
 23 Release on selected interest rates (daily or weekly),
 24 commonly referred to as the ‘H.15 release’ or the
 25 ‘Federal funds rate’.

1 “(5) FUNDING.—

2 “(A) APPROPRIATIONS.—Out of funds in
3 the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there
4 is appropriated to the fund established under
5 paragraph (1) \$30,000,000, to remain available
6 until expended.

7 “(B) REINVESTMENT OF REPAYMENTS.—
8 Any amounts received from the repayment of a
9 loan under this subsection shall be deposited in
10 the fund established under paragraph (1) and
11 shall remain available until expended.

12 “(j) REPORTING BY FELLOWS.—Each fellow shall
13 submit to the Committee and each mentor assigned to the
14 fellow under subsection (e) a progress report on the activi-
15 ties of the fellow with respect to each year during which
16 the fellow participates in the Program and each of the 3
17 years after the fellow completes participation in the Pro-
18 gram, which shall include information regarding revenue,
19 jobs created, pursuit of external funding and other metrics
20 determined by Committee.

21 “(k) SELECTION COMMITTEE.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administration shall
23 establish a selection committee composed of experts
24 from educational, scientific, technical, and public
25 service backgrounds to—

1 “(A) build the next generation of entre-
 2 preneurs under the Program through a trans-
 3 parent, competitive, fair, and rigorous process;

4 “(B) enable entrepreneurs each year under
 5 the Program to successfully build small busi-
 6 ness concerns in distressed regions by providing
 7 guidance, expertise, and partnerships between
 8 the fellows and business supports;

9 “(C) increase the diversity of entrepreneur-
 10 ship in the United States;

11 “(D) increase entrepreneurship in dis-
 12 tressed regions;

13 “(E) increase talent retention and migra-
 14 tion to distressed regions;

15 “(F) increase investment and growth in
 16 communities in distressed regions; and

17 “(G) ensure the transparent, efficient and
 18 effective use of taxpayer funds.

19 “(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

20 “(A) COMPOSITION.—The Committee shall
 21 be composed of 12 members appointed by the
 22 Administrator, of whom—

23 “(i) 1 member shall be a small busi-
 24 ness concern investor such as a venture
 25 capitalist or an angel investor;

1 “(ii) 1 member shall be a small busi-
2 ness concern banker, including—

3 “(I) a community development fi-
4 nancial institution; or

5 “(II) a minority depository insti-
6 tution;

7 “(iii) 3 members shall be successful
8 entrepreneurs;

9 “(iv) 1 member shall be a SCORE
10 representative;

11 “(v) 1 member shall be a mentor in
12 the mentor-protege program for small busi-
13 ness concerns eligible to receive contracts
14 pursuant to section 8(a) who has relevant
15 contracting experience;

16 “(vi) 1 member shall be an expert on
17 economic development;

18 “(vii) 1 member shall be an expert on
19 distressed regions; and

20 “(viii) 3 members shall be individuals
21 from the private sector with relevant expe-
22 rience as related to the mission and the
23 duties of the Committee.

24 “(B) PREFERENCE.—There shall be a
25 preference for the appointment of members of

1 the Committee who are within populations that
2 are underrepresented among small business
3 concern owners in the United States, including
4 women and ethnic minority groups.

5 “(C) CHAIR.—The Administrator shall se-
6 lect the chair of the Committee from among
7 members of the Committee.

8 “(D) TERM; VACANCIES.—The term of of-
9 fice of each member of the Committee shall be
10 6 years, except that—

11 “(i) of the members first serving on
12 the Committee—

13 “(I) 4 shall serve terms of 2
14 years;

15 “(II) 4 shall serve terms of 4
16 years; and

17 “(III) 4 shall serve terms of 6
18 years;

19 “(ii) any member appointed to fill a
20 vacancy shall serve for the remainder of
21 the term for which his predecessor was ap-
22 pointed and shall be appointed in the same
23 manner as the original appointment for
24 that vacancy was made; and

1 “(iii) upon the expiration of their
 2 term of office, any member of the Com-
 3 mittee may continue to serve until their
 4 successor is appointed.

5 “(E) POLITICAL PARTY.—Not more than 6
 6 members of the Committee shall be from the
 7 same political party.

8 “(F) APPOINTMENTS.—Appointments to
 9 the Committee shall be made not later than 30
 10 days after the date of enactment of the Next
 11 Generation Entrepreneurship Corps Act.

12 “(3) COMPENSATION.—Members of the Com-
 13 mittee shall serve without pay, but shall be entitled
 14 to reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and other
 15 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of
 16 their duties.

17 “(4) FIRST MEETING.—Not later than 30 days
 18 after the appointment of a majority of Committee
 19 members, the Committee shall hold its first meeting.

20 “(5) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The
 21 Committee—

22 “(A) shall provide for the conduct of a na-
 23 tionwide competition for selecting fellows to
 24 participate in the Program by—

1 “(i) issuing a request for applications
2 not later than 6 months after the date of
3 enactment of the Next Generation Entre-
4 preneurship Corps Act, with a deadline for
5 submissions that is not later than 12
6 months after such date of enactment;

7 “(ii) partnering with private organiza-
8 tions, including those with investment ex-
9 perience or experience in the area of in-
10 vesting in businesses, to provide edu-
11 cational materials to educate the public
12 about the Program, help ensure that the
13 Program is competitive, and increase
14 awareness of the Program;

15 “(iii) partnering with organizations
16 that work with or provide programming for
17 the K–20 entrepreneurship pipeline; and

18 “(iv) subject to subsection (c)(2), se-
19 lecting fellows, which shall include select-
20 ing the first group of fellows not later than
21 13 months after the date of enactment of
22 the Next Generation Entrepreneurship
23 Corps Act;

24 “(B) shall carry out the duties described in
25 this section with respect to the Program;

1 “(C) may identify—

2 “(i) priority sectors that advance the
3 social and economic development of a geo-
4 graphic area or the United States, includ-
5 ing social services, education, health and
6 nutrition, child care, manufacturing, tech-
7 nology, or any industry sector that sup-
8 ports the economic development strategy of
9 an area; and

10 “(ii) prohibited sectors and businesses
11 that could harm the economic development
12 of communities, such as—

13 “(I) predatory financial services
14 and addictive substances; and

15 “(II) businesses described in sec-
16 tion 120.110 of title 13, Code of Fed-
17 eral Regulations, or any successor
18 regulation;

19 “(D) may create an entity described in sec-
20 tion 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
21 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a)
22 of such Code to solicit private funding for the
23 Program;

24 “(E) may work with the Economic Devel-
25 opment Agency of the Department of Com-

1 merce in carrying out the duties of the Program
2 and providing resources to fellows; and

3 “(F) shall assist with the facilitation of
4 pairing, and encourage designated SCORE
5 chapters to pair, assigned fellows with local ac-
6 celerators.

7 “(6) STAFF.—The Committee may appoint a
8 staff director and other personnel as necessary to
9 carry out the duties of the Committee.

10 “(7) APPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Federal
11 Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not
12 apply to the Committee.

13 “(l) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date
14 on which the Committee selects the first group of fellows,
15 and every year thereafter, the Committee shall submit to
16 Congress a report that empirically evaluates the effective-
17 ness of the Program, including an evaluation by revenues
18 and jobs created and sustained, small business concern
19 survival rates, capital raised, and other metrics deter-
20 mined appropriate by the Committee.

21 “(m) AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

22 “(1) STIPENDS AND NETWORK BUILDING.—
23 There is authorized to be appropriated \$39,200,000
24 for each fiscal year for the Program, of which—

1 “(A) \$38,400,000 shall be for stipends
2 made under subsection (b)(1); and

3 “(B) \$800,000 shall be for providing reim-
4 bursable expenses for travel and stay up to
5 \$2,500 per fellow to attend 1 conference de-
6 scribed in subsection (g).

7 “(2) SCORE.—There is authorized to be ap-
8 propriated \$5,000,000 for each fiscal year to
9 SCORE to carry out activities under the Program.

10 “(3) IMMERSIVE INITIAL TRAINING.—There is
11 authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year
12 such sums as may be necessary to provide to the
13 Committee \$4,000 per fellow for the cost of hosting
14 the immersive initial training under subsection (f).

15 “(4) STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION.—There is
16 authorized to be appropriated \$2,500,000 for each
17 fiscal year for staff and administrative expenses of
18 the Administration to implement the Program.

19 “(5) STUDENT LOAN DEFERRAL AND
20 HEALTHCARE.—There is authorized to be appro-
21 priated such sums as may be necessary to carry out
22 subsection (d).

23 “(6) COMMITTEE COSTS.—There is authorized
24 to be appropriated \$4,000,000 for each fiscal year

- 1 for travel and administrative expenses of the Com-
- 2 mittee.”.

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