

(b) Establishment by Administrator

In order to accomplish the objectives of this section, the Administrator, in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies, shall be responsible for formulating a national small business tree planting program. Based on this program, a State may submit a detailed proposal for tree planting by contract.

(c) Utilization of small business concerns in implementing program

To encourage and develop the capacity of small business concerns, to utilize this important segment of our economy, and to permit rapid increases in employment opportunities in local communities, grantees are directed to utilize small business contractors or concerns in connection with the program established by this section, and shall, to the extent practicable, divide the project to allow more than one small business concern to perform the work under the project.

(d) Cooperation of Federal agencies; technical services

For purposes of this section, agencies of the Federal Government are hereby authorized to cooperate with all grantees and with State foresters or other appropriate officials by providing without charge, in furtherance of this program, technical services with respect to the planting and growing of such trees.

(e) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the objectives of this section, \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 1991 and \$30,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1995 through 1997, and all of such sums may remain available until expended.

(f) Rules and regulations

Notwithstanding any other law, rule, or regulation, the administration shall publish in the Federal Register proposed rules and regulations implementing this section within sixty days after November 5, 1990, and shall publish final rules and regulations within one hundred and twenty days of November 5, 1990.

(g) Definitions

As used in this section:

(1) the term "local government" includes political subdivisions of a State such as counties, parishes, cities, towns and municipalities;

(2) the term "planting" includes watering, application of fertilizer and herbicides, pruning and shaping, and other subsequent care and maintenance for a period of three years after the trees are planted; and

(3) the term "State" includes any agency thereof.

(h) Annual report to President and Congress

The Administrator shall submit annually to the President and the Congress a report on activities within the scope of this section.

(Pub. L. 85-536, §2[24], as added Pub. L. 101-515, title V, §4, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2140; amended Pub. L. 103-211, title I, §201, Feb. 12, 1994, 108 Stat. 5; Pub. L. 103-317, title IV, Aug. 26, 1994, 108 Stat. 1755.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 651, act July 30, 1953, ch. 282, §225, as added Aug. 9, 1955, ch. 628, §14, 69 Stat. 551, prohibited duplication of activities, and was omitted as superseded by section 647 of this title. See Codification note set out under section 631 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-211 inserted at end “, and shall give priority to a proposal to restore an area determined to be a major disaster by the President on a date not more than three years prior to the fiscal year for which the application is made”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 103-317 substituted “fiscal years 1995 through 1997” for “fiscal years 1992 through 1994”.

TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

For termination, effective May 15, 2000, of provisions in subsec. (h) of this section relating to submitting annual report to Congress, see section 3003 of Pub. L. 104-66, as amended, set out as a note under section 1113 of Title 31, Money and Finance, and page 191 of House Document No. 103-7.

§ 652. Central European Enterprise Development Commission**(a) Establishment**

There is hereby established a Central European Small Business Enterprise Development Commission (hereinafter in this section referred to as the “Commission”). The Commission shall be comprised of a representative of each of the following: the Small Business Administration, the Association of American Universities, and the Association of Small Business Development Centers.

(b) Management and technical assistance to designated Central European countries

The Commission shall develop in Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary (hereinafter referred to as “designated Central European countries”) a self-sustaining system to provide management and technical assistance to small business owners.

(1) Not later than 90 days after November 5, 1990, the Commission, in consultation with the Agency for International Development, shall enter¹ a contract with one or more entities to—

(A) determine the needs of small businesses in the designated Central European countries for management and technical assistance;

(B) evaluate appropriate Small Business Development Center-programs which might be replicated in order to meet the needs of each of such countries; and

(C) identify and assess the capability of educational institutions in each such country to develop a Small Business Development Center type program.

(2) Not later than 18 months after November 5, 1990, the Commission shall review the recommendations submitted to it and shall formulate and contract for the establishment of a three-year management and technical assistance demonstration program.

¹ So in original. Probably should be “enter into”.

(c) Eligibility

In order to be eligible to participate, the educational institution in each designated Central European country shall—

- (1) obtain the prior approval of the government to conduct the program;
- (2) agree to provide partial financial support for the program, either directly or indirectly, during the second and third years of the demonstration program; and
- (3) agree to obtain private sector involvement in the delivery of assistance under the program.

(d) Initial meeting and organization

The Commission shall meet and organize not later than 30 days after November 5, 1990.

(e) Reimbursement for necessary expenses

Members of the Commission shall serve without pay, except they shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in carrying out their functions in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Federal Government are allowed expenses under section 5703 of title 5.

(f) Meetings; quorum

Two Commissioners shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Meetings shall be at the call of the Chairperson who shall be elected by the Members of the Commission.

(g) Authority; personnel

The Commission shall not have any authority to appoint staff, but upon request of the Chairperson, the head of any Federal department or agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of such department or agency to the Commission to assist in carrying out the Commission's functions under this section without regard to section 3341 of title 5. The Administrator of the General Services Administration shall provide, on a reimbursable basis, such administrative support services as the Commission may request.

(h) Initial and annual reports to Congress

The Commission shall report to Congress not later than December 1, 1991, and annually thereafter, on the progress in carrying out the provisions of this section.

(i) Authorization of appropriations

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Small Business Administration the sum of \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 1991, \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 1992, \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1993 and 1994, and \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 1995 to carry out the provisions of this section. Such sums shall be disbursed by the Small Business Administration as requested by the Commission and may remain available until expended. Any authority to enter contracts or other spending authority provided for in this section is subject to amounts provided for in advance in appropriations Acts.

(Pub. L. 85-536, §2[25], as added Pub. L. 101-515, title V, §7, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2142; amended Pub. L. 103-81, §9(b), Aug. 13, 1993, 107 Stat. 783; Pub. L. 103-403, title IV, §405, Oct. 22, 1994, 108 Stat. 4192.)

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-403 substituted “, \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1993 and 1994, and \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 1995” for “and \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1993 and 1994”.

1993—Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 103-81 substituted “\$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1993 and 1994” for “\$3,000,000 for fiscal year 1993”.

§ 653. Office of Rural Affairs**(a) Establishment**

There is hereby established in the Small Business Administration an Office of Rural Affairs (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Office”).

(b) Appointment of director

The Office shall be headed by a director who shall be appointed by the Administrator not later than 90 days after November 15, 1990.

(c) Functions

The Office shall—

(1) strive to achieve an equitable distribution of the financial assistance available from the Administration for small business concerns located in rural areas;

(2) to the extent practicable, compile annual statistics on rural areas, including statistics concerning the population, poverty, job creation and retention, unemployment, business failures, and business startups;

(3) provide information to industries, organizations, and State and local governments concerning the assistance available to rural small business concerns through the Administration and through other Federal departments and agencies;

(4) provide information to industries, organizations, educational institutions, and State and local governments concerning programs administered by private organizations, educational institutions, and Federal, State, and local governments which improve the economic opportunities of rural citizens; and

(5) work with the United States Tourism and Travel Administration to assist small businesses in rural areas with tourism promotion and development.

(Pub. L. 85-536, §2[26], as added Pub. L. 101-574, title III, §302, Nov. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 2827.)

CATALOG OF PROGRAMS TO ASSIST RURAL SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS

Pub. L. 101-574, title III, §304, Nov. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 2829, required the Small Business Administration to compile a catalog of programs administered by Federal and State departments and agencies which offer assistance to small business concerns in rural areas by no later than 180 days after Nov. 15, 1990, and to issue updates of the catalog by Feb. 1, 1993, and Feb. 1, 1995.

RURAL SMALL BUSINESS CONFERENCES

Pub. L. 101-574, title III, §306, Nov. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 2829, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration shall, as soon as practicable after the catalog (described in section 305 [probably means section 304, set out above] and hereinafter referred to as the ‘catalog’) is issued, but not later than 90 days after the date such catalog is issued, convene regional rural conferences in 5 cities or towns in the United States.