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2d Session }

SENATE

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SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE
AND OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES
DURING THE 113TH CONGRESS

(JANUARY 3, 2013 THROUGH JANUARY 3, 2015)

R E P O R T

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON
SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
UNITED STATES SENATE



MAY 10, 2016.—Ordered to be printed

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

U.S. SENATE, COMMITTEE ON
SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.,
President of the Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Senate Rule XXVI.8(b) requires the submission of a report of the activities of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship for the previous Congress.

In accordance with the requirements, I am submitting the report of the activities of the Committee during the 113th Congress. This report outlines the most noteworthy legislative achievements and other achievements and activities of our Committee.

Sincerely,

MARIA CANTWELL,
Chair.

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MEMBERSHIP
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
(1ST SESSION)

MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana, *Chair*
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho, *Ranking Member*

CARL LEVIN, Michigan	DAVID VITTER, Louisiana
TOM HARKIN, Iowa	MARCO RUBIO, Florida
JOHN F. KERRY, Massachusetts	RAND PAUL, Kentucky
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington	TIM SCOTT, South Carolina
MARK L. PRYOR, Arkansas	DEB FISCHER, Nebraska
BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, Maryland	MICHAEL B. ENZI, Wyoming
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire	RON JOHNSON, Wisconsin
KAY R. HAGAN, North Carolina	
HEIDI HEITKAMP, North Dakota	

JANE CAMPBELL, *Democratic Staff Director*
SKIFFINGTON HOLDERNESS, *Republican Staff Director*

Also serving on the Committee were Senators William M. Cowan (Democrat, Massachusetts) and Jeff Chiesa (Republican, New Jersey). Senator Cowan served on the Committee from February 12, 2013 to July 16, 2013. On this date his temporary appointment to the Senate expired with the swearing in of Edward J. Markey as United States Senator for Massachusetts. Senator Chiesa served on the Committee from June 20, 2013 to October 31, 2013. On this date his temporary appointment to the Senate expired with the swearing in of Cory A. Booker as United States Senator for New Jersey.

MEMBERSHIP
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
(2D SESSION)

MARIA CANTWELL, Washington, *Chair*
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho, *Ranking Member*

CARL LEVIN, Michigan	DAVID VITTER, Louisiana
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana	MARCO RUBIO, Florida
MARK L. PRYOR, Arkansas	RAND PAUL, Kentucky
BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, Maryland	TIM SCOTT, South Carolina
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire	DEB FISCHER, Nebraska
KAY R. HAGAN, North Carolina	MICHAEL B. ENZI, Wyoming
HEIDI HEITKAMP, North Dakota	RON JOHNSON, Wisconsin
EDWARD J. MARKEY, Massachusetts	
CORY A. BOOKER, New Jersey	

JONATHAN HALE, *Democratic Staff Director*
SKIFFINGTON HOLDERNESS, *Republican Staff Director*

The Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship has no subcommittees. They were abolished in 1995 at the start of the 104th Congress, under Chairman Kit Bond (Republican, Missouri) and Ranking Member Dale Bumpers (Democrat, Arkansas).

The chairmanship of the Committee transferred from Senator Landrieu to Senator Cantwell on February 12, 2014, just over a month into the second session of the 113th Congress.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE AND OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES
DURING THE 113TH CONGRESS

MAY 10, 2016.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. VITTER, from the Committee on Small Business and
Entrepreneurship, submitted the following

R E P O R T

JURISDICTION

The jurisdiction of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is outlined in paragraphs 1(o)(1-3) of rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. The following is a reproduction of the relevant sections:

RULE XXV

STANDING COMMITTEES

1. The following standing committees shall be appointed at the commencement of each Congress, and shall continue and have the power to act until their successors are appointed, with leave to report by bill or otherwise on matters within their respective jurisdictions: . . .

(o)(1) Committee on Small Business, to which committee shall be referred all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the Small Business Administration.

(2) Any proposed legislation reported by such committee which relates to matters other than the functions of the Small Business Administration shall, at the request of the chairman of any standing committee having jurisdiction over the subject matter extraneous to the functions of the Small Business Administration, be considered and reported by such standing committee prior to its consideration by the Senate; and likewise measures reported by other committees directly relating to the Small Business Administration shall, at the request of the chairman of the Committee on Small Business, be referred to the Committee on Small Business for its consideration of any portions of the measure dealing with the Small Business Administration, and be reported by this committee prior to its consideration by the Senate.

(3) Such committee shall also study and survey by means of research and investigation all problems of American small business

enterprises, and report thereon from time to time. Per paragraph 3(a) of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship shall be composed of 18 members. S. Res. 17 and S. Res. 18, which were put forth by Majority Leader Harry Reid (D–NV) and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R–KY), respectively, established the Committee’s membership as being ten (10) majority members and eight (8) minority members.

OVERVIEW

The 113th Congress began on January 3, 2013 and ended two years later on January 3, 2015. Throughout the entirety of the Congress, Barack H. Obama was President, approaching the start of his second term at the beginning of the Congress, and entering into his final two years as the Congress ended.

During this session of Congress control of the two chambers was split, with the Republicans serving as the majority party in the House, and the Democrats as the majority in the Senate. At the beginning of the session, party balance in the Senate was divided between 53 members on the Democratic side, 2 Independents (Senators Bernie Sanders of Vermont, and Angus King of Maine, both caucusing with the Democrats), and 45 Republicans. Dynamics in the Senate changed with the death of five-term Democratic senator from New Jersey, Senator Frank Lautenberg, on June 3, 2013. Senator Lautenberg’s death left the chamber with 52 Democrats, 2 Independents, and 45 Republicans. On June 6, 2013, New Jersey governor Chris Christie announced that he would be appointing Jeffrey Chiesa, the then-Attorney General of the state, to serve as United States Senator until a replacement could be elected. Senator Chiesa was officially sworn into the Senate on June 10, 2013, bringing the number of Republican Senators to 46, with 52 Democrats and 2 Independents. On October 16, 2013, the state of New Jersey held its special election to permanently fill the late-Senator Lautenberg’s seat. The election was won by the Democratic mayor of Newark, Cory Booker. Mr. Booker was sworn into the Senate on October 31, 2013, restoring the original breakdown existing at the start of the Congress, of 53 Democrats, 2 Independents, and 45 Republicans.

As the 113th began, Democratic Senator Mary L. Landrieu of Louisiana was again the Chair, and Republican Senator James E. Risch of Idaho was again the Ranking Member. The makeup of the Committee is established in the Standing Rules of the Senate, which prescribes there to be 18 members of the Committee. Majority Leader Harry Reid and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell introduced S. Res. 17 and S. Res. 18, respectively, which divided the membership of the Committee between 10 Democrats, and 8 Republicans. The original Democratic members of the Committee were Chair Landrieu, and Senators Carl Levin of Michigan, Tom Harkin of Iowa, John Kerry of Massachusetts, Maria Cantwell of Washington, Mark Pryor of Arkansas, Benjamin Cardin of Maryland, Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire, Kay Hagan of North Carolina, and Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota. The original Republican members of the Committee were Ranking Member Risch, and Senators David Vitter of Louisiana, Marco Rubio of Florida, Rand Paul of Kentucky, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Deb Fischer

of Nebraska, Michael Enzi of Wyoming, and Ron Johnson of Wisconsin.

There were four additional members added to the Committee during the Congress—two on a temporary appointment basis, and following that, two permanent additions. On February 1, 2013 committee member Senator John Kerry resigned his seat to accept a nomination as the next United States Secretary of State. Following his resignation, Massachusetts governor Deval Patrick appointed William Cowan, former legal counsel and chief of staff to the governor, to serve in the Senate until a special election could determine a permanent replacement. Upon Senator Cowan's swearing-in to the Senate, Majority Leader Harry Reid introduced S. Res. 29 on February 12, 2013, which added Senator Cowan to the Committee on the majority side. Senator Cowan served on the Committee until July 16, 2013, when his temporary appointment to the Senate expired with the swearing-in of his replacement, Edward Markey. S. Res. 196, introduced by Majority Leader Reid, added Senator Markey to the Committee on the Majority side, in replacement of former-Senator Cowan. Another change in the Committee membership occurred on June 3, 2013, due to the previously discussed death of Senator Frank Lautenberg. New Jersey governor Chris Christie appointed Jeffrey Chiesa to fill the seat, and upon Mr. Chiesa's swearing-in to the Senate, S. Res. 180, introduced by Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, added Senator Chiesa to the Committee as the ninth member on the Minority side. Senator Chiesa served on the Committee until October 31, 2013, when his temporary appointment to the Senate expired with the swearing-in of his replacement, Cory Booker. S. Res. 283, introduced by Majority Leader Reid, added Senator Booker to the Committee on the Majority side, which restored the original party-breakdown of the Committee of 10 Democrats and 8 Republicans.

Another change in the Committee occurred not long into the second half of the Congress, and resulted in the Chairmanship of the Committee transferring from Senator Landrieu to Senator Maria Cantwell. The string of events leading to this leadership change began when Democratic Senator Max Baucus of Montana, resigned his seat to serve as United States Ambassador to China. At the time Senator Baucus was Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, a position that, in the wake of his departure, was left vacant. The Chairmanship of the Finance Committee went to Democratic Senator Ron Wyden of Oregon, who in order to assume this new position, vacated his old position as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. This new vacancy at the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was filled by the then-Chair of the Small Business Committee, Senator Mary Landrieu. It should be noted that while Senator Landrieu resigned from her position as Chair of the Committee, she remained on as a member for the remainder of the Congress. On February 12, 2014, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid introduced S. Res. 359, which officially named Senator Maria Cantwell of Washington, the new Chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Throughout the entirety of the Congress the Committee held 28 hearings, field hearings, roundtables and markups, and heard testimony from over 190 witnesses. Witness and expert testimony at

these events centered on issues such as improving access to capital, promoting women’s entrepreneurship, extending certain SBA loan provisions, and reforming the tax code to benefit small businesses. Additionally, in exercise of its oversight responsibilities, the Committee sent more than 23 letters to various agencies, agency heads, members of Congress, and the White House.

KEY LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

Promoting Women’s Entrepreneurship. Women-owned businesses have made significant contributions to our economy in recent decades, with the number of women-owned firms more than doubling—to 8.6 million—since 1987. In recent years, immediately following the economic recession, women-owned businesses ranked second only to publicly traded companies in job growth, adding 274,000 net new jobs since 2007. Today women-owned businesses contribute \$3 trillion in economic growth, and support 23 million jobs.

Despite the growth and success that this vital sector of our economy has experienced in recent years, women entrepreneurs still face substantial hurdles in their efforts to grow their businesses. One of the biggest challenges faced by women entrepreneurs is in accessing capital. Although they represent 30 percent of all small companies, women-owned small businesses receive only \$1 out of every \$23 in small business lending—just over 4 percent. When women do receive financing, it oftentimes comes with less favorable conditions than does lending to their male counterparts.

Women also face hurdles in the area of federal contracting. Twenty years ago the United States government set a goal of awarding five percent of all federal contracts to women-owned businesses. This goal has never been met, and as a result, women-owned businesses have missed out on an estimated \$4 billion in contracting opportunities each year.

Promoting equal footing for women entrepreneurs and strengthening the economic climate for women-owned businesses was a huge push during the 113th Congress. As part of this effort, Chair Landrieu held a hearing on May 8, 2013 entitled “Strengthening the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem for Minority Women.” The focus of the hearing was on the Women’s Business Ownership Act, which when passed in 1988, extended the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974 to include business credit, required that the Census Bureau more completely count women-owned enterprises, established the National Women’s Business Council, and launched a pilot program of entrepreneurship training that led to the SBA’s Women’s Business Center program. The witnesses at the hearing engaged in discussion centered on increasing access to capital, access to federal contracts, and funding for counseling. Chair Landrieu used this discussion as a starting point from which she led an effort to reauthorize the Women’s Business Ownership Act, which had not been done by Congress since 1999.

When Senator Cantwell took over as Chair of the Committee, she too made promoting women’s entrepreneurship a top priority. On July 23, 2014 the Committee released a report, entitled “21st Century Barriers to Women’s Entrepreneurship,” that took an in-depth look at the issue of women’s entrepreneurship, and the challenges women face in starting and growing a business. The report found

that women face significant challenges, which include getting fair access to capital, getting equal access to federal contracts, and getting relevant business training and counseling. Beyond studying the climate for women entrepreneurs, the report made a number of suggestions for strengthening women's entrepreneurship. Included among these potential solutions are modernizing and expanding the Small Business Administration's Microloan program, enacting new legislation that would provide sole-source contracting to women-owned businesses, and reauthorizing the Women's Business Center program with increased funding.

Acting on the recommendations from the report, Chairwoman Cantwell introduced the Women's Small Business Ownership Act of 2014 on July 30, 2014. Joined by co-sponsoring Senators Tammy Baldwin, Barbara Boxer, Benjamin Cardin, Kirsten Gillibrand, Kay Hagan, Martin Heinrich, Jeanne Shaheen, and John Walsh, the act sought to improve access to capital, increase women's access to counseling and training services, and help women achieve parity in terms of federal contract receipts.

Specifically, the Act would have expanded the Small Business Administration's Microloan program to reach more borrowers up to \$50,000, reauthorized the SBA's pilot Intermediary Lending program, allowed sole-source contracting for women hoping to secure federal contracts, increased funding for the Women's Business Center program, and required that the SBA examine which industries throughout the economy are under-represented by women-owned small businesses, and therefore stand as targets for further economic growth.

Improving Access to Capital. In the post-recession economic climate, accessing sufficient capital has been one of the biggest challenges facing small businesses. This presents a significant hurdle to Main Street entrepreneurs as 51 percent of all small businesses in the United States depend on bank-issued loans to start or grow their enterprises. Small businesses can't grow and create jobs without sufficient access to capital. Throughout the entirety of this Congress, the Committee made increasing and improving small business' access to capital one of its top priorities.

Several bills were introduced during this Congress aiming to improve access to capital. On March 11, 2013, Chair Landrieu introduced the Expanding Access to Capital for Entrepreneurial Leaders (EXCEL) Act of 2013. This bill, which was cosponsored by Ranking Member Risch, as well as Senators Cardin and Cowan, sought to make improvements to the SBA's Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) program. This program was designed to help bridge the gap that exists between small businesses needing capital, and the market of traditional financing sources. SBICs are privately owned and operated investment funds, for which the SBA guarantees money borrowed for investment in small businesses. Since its inception in 1958, the SBIC program has seen significant success, having invested over \$56 billion in over 100,000 small businesses. Past recipients include companies that have gone on to achieve great success, including Apple Computer, AOL, Costco, and Outback Steakhouse.

In recent years, the program's success has only grown—in FY 2012, the program experienced its third consecutive record-year, with SBA-guaranteed leverage commitments totaling nearly \$2 bil-

lion. SBA estimates at the time predicted that demand for the program would continue to grow. Despite this rapid growth, authorized funding for the program had not been permanently raised since 2003, and is currently capped at \$3 billion. The EXCEL Act sought to improve capital access to businesses by increasing the cap on the SBIC program.

The bill, which was cosponsored by Senators Risch, Cardin, and Cowan, was discussed in Committee in a March 14, 2013 roundtable entitled, “Helping Small Businesses Weather Economic Challenges & Natural Disasters: Review of Legislative Proposals on Access to Capital and Disaster Recovery.” In a June 17, 2013 markup, the bill was amended by Chair Landrieu and Ranking Member Risch, and then reported favorably by voice vote.

In April of 2014, Chair Cantwell hosted a field hearing in Vancouver, Washington titled “Capital Access for Main Street: Meeting Opportunities of Growth along the Lower Columbia.” This hearing featured testimony from local small business owners, lenders, and economic development leaders, about the challenges associated with securing loans for expanding businesses and creating jobs. Also discussed were two of the popular loan programs offered through the Small Business Administration—the 7(a) loan program, which provides capital to businesses that have a tough time obtaining traditional financing, and the 504 program, which provides both real estate loans, and loans to purchase equipment. Both programs allow the government to assume some of the risk associated with lending, to encourage lenders to ease access to capital. This field hearing was the first stop in Chairwoman Cantwell’s “Listening Tour on Small Business Job Creation.”

Closing the Racial Wealth Gap. In 2011, the median net worth of Caucasians was \$110,500, compared to \$6,314 for African-Americans (94.3 percent lower than the median for Caucasians), \$7,683 for Hispanics (93 percent lower), and \$89,339 for Asians (19.2 percent lower). This gap can be explained, in part, by the fact that minorities earn lower incomes, and have less wealth generation over time. In addition to contributing to a number of other problems, this wealth gap hurts the ability of minorities to create, maintain, and grow small businesses, which in 2010 employed 55 million Americans.

The wealth gap issue is one that Chair Landrieu and the Committee looked at very closely this Congress, as the percentage of the population that is a racial minority is estimated to increase dramatically in the coming decades, from 37 percent currently, to 57 percent in 2060. As part of this examination, the Committee held a roundtable on September 18, 2013 entitled “Closing the Wealth Gap: Empowering America to Reach Its Full Economic Potential for Growth and Job Creation.” The goal of the roundtable was to find solutions and best practices for closing the racial wealth gap, and address why—unlike other gaps in income and high school completion—the wealth gap is not decreasing.

Chair Landrieu also released a committee report analyzing the racial wealth gap. The report thoroughly examines the issue of the gap, and suggests a number of factors contributing to its existence. Factors include lower levels of homeownership by minorities, a lack of generational wealth transfers (inherited wealth) to minorities relative to Caucasians, a lower degree of asset diversity among mi-

minorities, greater levels of student loan debt for minorities, lending discrimination against minorities, minorities' lower access to professional networks, language barriers, disparities in racial unemployment rates, and racial differences in internet access. Although highlighting the broader issues associated with a racial wealth gap, the report called for finding solutions to the gap in order to spur growth in both the small business community, and across the economy as a whole.

In addition to the above efforts, Chair Landrieu sent letters to 100 mayors across the country to gather insight and suggestions for how to best address the challenges associated with closing the wealth gap.

Extending the 504 Loan Refinance Provision. The ability to refinance owner-occupied commercial real estate debt through the 504 loan guaranty program, originally allowed by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) (P.L. 111-5), was temporarily expanded by the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010. The authority was a zero-cost way to help small businesses access their own equity that they had built up over the years in order to hire additional employees or retain those currently employed. In FY 2012, the second and final year of the program, the SBA utilized the provision to approve over 2,400 refinancings for over \$2.2 billion to small businesses.

Chair Landrieu and Senator Shaheen introduced the Commercial Real Estate and Economic Development (CREED) Act on February 12, 2013, which would have extended for five years, a provision allowing small business owners to use Small Business Administration 504 loans to refinance certain existing commercial mortgages. The provisions contained within the CREED Act were originally enacted with the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010, but did not become fully operational until February 2012. These provisions expired only months later in September 2012.

The CREED Act, which had eleven cosponsors (Senators Cantwell, Cardin, Cowan, Franken, Hagan, Isakson, Johnson, King, McCaskill, Nelson, and Pryor), was discussed in Committee in a March 14, 2013 roundtable titled "Helping Small Businesses Weather Economic Challenges & Natural Disasters: Review of Legislative Proposals on Access to Capital and Disaster Recovery." On June 17, 2013, the bill was approved unanimously by voice vote, and was reported out of Committee.

Sole Source Contracting Authority for Women-Owned Small Businesses. Prior to the 113th Congress, the Women-Owned Small Business program did not permit women-owned small businesses to receive sole source awards. Two major bills were introduced, and the measure was finally passed into law as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.

In June 2014, Senator Shaheen introduced S. 2481, the Women's Small Business Procurement Parity Act, to amend the Small Business Act by revising the procurement program requirements for women-owned small businesses. It sought to authorize the ability to award sole source contracts under the Act to small businesses owned and controlled by women who are economically disadvantaged, and who meet other criteria.

In July 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell also introduced sole source legislation—S. 2693, the Women’s Small Business Ownership Act of 2014—to amend the Small Business Act to direct the Office of Women’s Business Ownership within the Small Business Administration to address issues concerning specified disciplines required for starting, operating, and expanding a small business. It sought to authorize the ability to award sole source contracts to small businesses owned and controlled by one or more women who are economically disadvantaged, and to those whose businesses reside within industries where such businesses are substantially under-represented.

In July 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell and Ranking Member Risch led a hearing titled “Empowering Women Entrepreneurs: Understanding Successes, Addressing Persistent Challenges, and Identifying New Opportunities.” At the hearing, testimony was heard from the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, as well as a number of female small business owners. Witnesses stressed the importance of access to capital, access to training and counseling, and access to federal contracts.

In December 2014, the Small Business Committee was able to add a provision to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, which became Public Law 113–291 that amended the Small Business Act to allow federal agencies to award sole source contracts to women-owned small businesses and economically disadvantaged women-owned small businesses in designated industries.

Disaster Loan Assistance. As she has in other Congresses, Chair Landrieu believed that disaster loan assistance was one of the SBA’s most important services, and she made their programs a priority. She continually sought ways to make the SBA disaster programs more affordable and responsive to the business owners and homeowners who rely on the SBA in desperate times. Her work this Congress built upon past efforts, in which she successfully enacted SBA disaster reforms following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and the Deepwater Horizon disaster in 2010.

Chair Landrieu and Senator Cochran introduced the Small Business Disaster Recovery Act on February 28, 2013, which was designed to make the SBA disaster programs more responsive to the needs of small businesses. The bill would have clarified that the SBA cannot use a business owner’s primary residence as collateral for business loans under \$200,000, if there are other suitable business assets that could instead be used as collateral. The bill also allows out-of-state SBDCs to contribute assistance to in-state SBDCs in presidentially declared disaster areas.

The ideas in the bill, which was cosponsored by Senators Cardin, Casey, Gillibrand, Heitkamp, Hoeven, Pryor, and Wicker, were discussed in Committee in a March 14, 2013 roundtable titled, “Helping Small Businesses Weather Economic Challenges & Natural Disasters: Review of Legislative Proposals on Access to Capital and Disaster Recovery.” In a June 17, 2013 markup, the bill was amended by Senators Shaheen, Landrieu, and Hagan. Senator Shaheen’s amendment provided increased oversight of economic injury disaster loans. Chair Landrieu’s amendment reduced the paperwork burden on individuals and businesses applying for SBA disaster assistance. An amendment offered by Chair Landrieu and

Senator Hagan required the SBA to report on their progress establishing an online portal for businesses and individuals to track their disaster loan applications. In an 11–6 vote occurring during that same markup, the Small Business Disaster Reform Act of 2013 was reported favorably by the Committee.

Strengthening the SBIR/STTR Programs. The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship has oversight of the two largest federal research and development programs for small businesses—the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs. Through these programs, the government partners with small businesses, or small businesses and research universities or labs, to help solve its research and development problems by making small but sufficient awards to test as many ideas as possible. The focus is on discovering, funding, and evaluating the initial, highest-risk, most cutting-edge exploratory research that is necessary to achieve significant technological innovations and breakthroughs, and to increase private-sector commercialization of innovation derived from federal research and development. As a result, these programs stimulate the economy, and create businesses and jobs by making good use of the country’s entrepreneurs, scientists and engineers.

With the aim of further improving these programs, on March 8, 2013 Chair Landrieu sent letters to eleven different government agencies requesting that they report on their progress toward meeting SBIR and STTR program implementation goals.

Making the Tax Code Work for Small Business. On July 17, 2013 Chair Landrieu and Ranking Member Risch led a roundtable entitled “Small Business Tax Reform: Making the Tax Code Work for Entrepreneurs and Startups.” The discussion included a number of tax policy experts, business owners, as well as investors, and was designed to give small businesses a voice in the tax reform debate. Participants in the discussion stressed that simplicity should be an important consideration in any tax reform proposal, as should the idea that reform should benefit not only large companies, but small businesses as well.

Chair Landrieu also held a field hearing on January 21, 2014 that addressed this topic. The hearing, held in Lafayette, Louisiana, was titled “Fueling America—Enabling and Empowering Small Businesses to Unleash Domestic Production.” Among the topics of discussion was the impact that federal tax policies can have on local independent oil and gas producers in the Lafayette area—many of which are small businesses. Witnesses at the hearing included experts on tax and accounting policy, as well as accountants.

Boosting Encore Entrepreneurship. Chair Landrieu believed that entrepreneurship is an endeavor that can be undertaken by workers of any age. In 2013, there were 76 million people over the age of 50 living in the United States. It has been estimated that one in four Americans ages 44 to 70 is interested in becoming an entrepreneur in the next five to ten years. These demographics suggest that entrepreneurs over the age of 50, or “encore entrepreneurs,” represent an important part of our economy.

To help ensure this economic opportunity is realized, Chair Landrieu introduced the Empowering Encore Entrepreneurs (E3) Act of 2013, in co-sponsorship with Senator Bill Nelson, Chairman of the

Senate Special Committee on Aging. The E3 Act would authorize additional funding for online and in-person training for encore entrepreneurs, and would require that the barriers and obstacles facing encore entrepreneurs in their efforts to start or expand businesses, be studied. The act complements a joint effort by the Small Business Administration and the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) to provide counseling and training to more than 100,000 new and existing entrepreneurs in 2013.

Minimizing Effects of Sequestration on Small Businesses.

As mandated by the Budget Control Act of 2011, federal agencies were required to cut spending in 2013 to sequestration levels. Chair Landrieu was concerned that by drastically cutting each agency's spending, their ability to meet small business contracting goals would be lessened, thus hurting small businesses across the country. In response, Chair Landrieu sent letters to over 30 federal agencies stressing the important economic role that small businesses play, and expressing her concern that the cuts would unfairly harm small businesses.

Increasing Awareness for the Pivotal Role Played by Small Businesses. According to the Small Business Administration, small businesses employ nearly half of all U.S. workers, are responsible for injecting close to \$1 trillion into the economy, and have generated between 60 and 80 percent of net new jobs each year over the past decade.

Recognizing the importance of small businesses, Chair Landrieu and Ranking Member Risch were joined by 54 other senators from both parties in declaring the week beginning June 17, 2013 as National Small Business Week.

MEASURES ENACTED OR OBIATED RELEVANT TO THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

S. Res. 17, a resolution to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. Mr. Reid. Agreed to Jan 24, 2013.

S. Res. 18, a resolution making minority party appointments for the 113th Congress. Mr. McConnell. Agreed to Jan 24, 2013.

S. Res. 29, a resolution to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. Mr. Reid. Agreed to Feb 12, 2013.

S. Res. 64, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the period March 1, 2013, through September 30, 2013. Mr. Schumer. Agreed to Feb 28, 2013.

S. Res. 177, a resolution honoring the entrepreneurial spirit of small business concerns in the United States during National Small Business Week, which begins on June 17, 2013. Ms. Landrieu. Agreed to Jun 19, 2013.

S. Res. 180, a resolution making minority party appointments for the 113th Congress. Mr. McConnell. Agreed to Jun 20, 2013.

S. Res. 196, a resolution to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. Mr. Reid. Agreed to Jul 16, 2013.

S. Res. 253, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2014, and October 1, 2014, through February 28, 2015. Mr. Schumer. Agreed to Oct 3, 2013.

S. Res. 283, a resolution to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. Mr. Reid. Agreed to Oct 31, 2013.

S. Res. 359, a resolution to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. Mr. Reid. Agreed to Feb 12, 2014.

S. Res. 548, a resolution designating November 29, 2014, as "Small Business Saturday" and supporting efforts to increase awareness of the value of locally owned small businesses. Ms. Cantwell. Agreed to Sep 16, 2014.

P.L. 113-2, making supplemental appropriations [including to the Small Business Administration] for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, to improve and streamline disaster assistance for Hurricane Sandy, and for other purposes. Mr. Harold Rogers. Introduced on Jan 4, 2013 as H.R. 152. Passed the Senate on Jan 28, 2013. Became Public Law on Jan 29, 2013.

P.L. 113-6, an Act making consolidated appropriations and further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013. Increases appropriations to the Small Business Administration's Business Loans Program Account. Mr. Harold Rogers. Introduced on Mar 4, 2013 as H.R. 933. Passed the Senate on Mar 20, 2013. Became Public Law on Mar 26, 2013.

P.L. 113-66, an act to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Bennie G. Adkins and Donald P. Sloat of the United States Army for acts of valor during the Vietnam Conflict and to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor to certain other veterans who were previously recommended for award of the Medal of Honor. Also amends provisions of the Small Business Act related to federal contracting goals. Mr. Theodore Deutch. Introduced on Oct 22, 2013 as H.R. 3304. Passed the Senate on Nov 19, 2013. Became Public Law on Dec 26, 2013.

P.L. 113-89, to delay the implementation of certain provisions of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012, and for other purposes. Directs FEMA to monitor and report on the impact of certain mandatory rate increases on the affordability of flood insurance for certain small businesses. Mr. Michael Grimm. Introduced on Oct 29, 2013 as H.R. 3370. Passed the Senate on Mar 13, 2014. Became Public Law Mar 21, 2014.

P.L. 113-76, an act making consolidated appropriations [including to the Small Business Administration] for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes. Mr. Lamar Smith. Introduced on Nov 20, 2013 as H.R. 3547. Passed the Senate on Dec 12, 2013. Became Public Law on Jan 17, 2014.

P.L. 113-164, a resolution making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes. Provides funding for general business loans authorized under the Small Business Act, and permits funds to be apportioned up to the rate necessary to accommodate increased demand for the loans. Mr. Harold Rogers. Intro-

duced on Sep 9, 2014 as H.J. Res. 124. Passed the Senate on Sep 18, 2014. Became Public Law on Sep 19, 2014.

NOMINATIONS

The Small Business Administration has four positions that are filled by presidential appointment, which then require Senate confirmation under the jurisdiction of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. The positions are: SBA Administrator, SBA Deputy Administrator, SBA Inspector General, and Chief Counsel for Advocacy.

During the 113th Congress, only the positions of SBA Administrator and Chief Counsel for Advocacy needed Senate action. The position of SBA Inspector General was held by Peggy E. Gustafson, confirmed on September 24, 2009. The position of SBA Deputy Administrator has been empty since May 2013.

Maria Contreras-Sweet

On January 15, 2014, President Obama nominated Maria Contreras-Sweet to serve as the twenty-fourth Administrator of the Small Business Administration. A hearing was held on February 12, 2014 to examine the nomination. The nomination was reported favorably out of the Committee by unanimous voice vote on March 5, 2014. On March 27, 2014, the nomination was confirmed by a voice vote of the full Senate.

Gilberto de Jesús

On August 28, 2014, President Obama nominated Gilberto de Jesús to serve as Chief Counsel for Advocacy for the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy. The 113th Congress ended before the Committee was able to act on Mr. de Jesús' nomination.

HEARINGS, ROUNDTABLES, AND MARKUPS OF THE 113TH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION ¹

February 13, 2013: Meeting to Organize the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, Senator Landrieu chaired. The Committee met to adopt rules governing the procedures of the Committee, as well as to adopt the budget for the first seven months of 113th Congress. The rules establish how the Committee will operate and the rights of the Majority and the Minority for the congressional session.

March 14, 2013: Roundtable titled "Helping Small Businesses Weather Economic Challenges and Natural Disasters: Review of Legislative Proposals on Access to Capital and Disaster Recovery," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Mr. James Rivera, Associate Administrator, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration; Ms. Jeanne Hult, Associate Administrator, Office of Capital Access, U.S. Small Business Administration; Mr. John Needham, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Small Business Administration; Mr. James

¹The Committee also held two informal, unofficial events during the first session: on April 11, 2013, the Committee hosted a coffee reception, titled "Senate Small Business Committee Coffee to Discuss Your Group's Priorities for the 113th Congress," and a roundtable on April 18, 2013, which focused on strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem for musicians.

L. King, State Director, NY State Small Business Development Center; Prof. Howard Kunreuther, James G. Dinan Professor of Decision Sciences & Public Policy, Wharton School; Dr. Erwann Michel-Kerjan, Managing Director, Wharton Risk Management & Decision Processes Center, Wharton School; Mr. Jim Rich, President, Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce; Ms. Ashley Fingarson, Manager, Legislative Affairs, National Federation of Independent Business; Mr. Ralph Hardt, President, Jagemann Stamping Company; Dr. David B. Muhlhausen, Research Fellow in Empirical Policy Analysis, The Heritage Foundation; Mr. Sengal Selassie, Co-founder, Brightwood Capital Advisors, LLC. The Committee met to discuss legislative proposals currently before the Committee to promote access to capital and assist small businesses impacted by disasters.

April 17, 2013: Hearing titled "The FY 2014 Budget Request for the Small Business Administration," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from the Honorable Karen Mills, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration; the Honorable Peggy Gustafson, Inspector General, U.S. Small Business Administration; Dr. Winslow Sargeant, Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Office of Advocacy, U.S. Small Business Administration. The Committee met to discuss the proposed FY14 budget for the SBA.

May 8, 2013: Hearing titled "Strengthening the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem for Minority Women," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Ms. Alejandra Castillo, National Deputy Director, Minority Business Development Agency; the Honorable Marie Johns, Deputy Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration; Ms. Dixie Kolditz, Owner, Brighton Enterprises, Inc. and Open-Box Creations, LLC; Ms. Eva Longoria, Founder, Eva Longoria Foundation; Mr. Marc Morial, President and CEO, National Urban League; Ms. Sophia Parker, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, DSFederal, Inc; Ms. Marianne Lancaster, President and CEO, Lancaster Packaging, Inc. The Committee met to learn about impediments facing minority women, and discuss potential solutions for strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem for minority women.

May 16, 2013: Roundtable titled "The Impact of Mandatory E-Verify on America's Small Businesses," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Mr. John Arensmeyer, Founder & CEO, Small Business Majority; Mr. David R. Burton, General Counsel, National Small Business Association; Ms. Sabrina B. Poole, President & CEO, SERDI LLC; Mr. Rick Judson, Owner, Evergreen Development Group; Mr. Peter Monaghan, Deputy Associate Commissioner, Data Exchange and Policy Publications, Social Security Administration; Ms. Kathy Lotspeich, Deputy Chief, Verification Division, U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security; Mr. Ryan Kearney, Manager, Labor & Workforce Policy, National Restaurant Association; Mr. Frank Fiorille, Senior Director-Risk Management, Paychex. The Committee met to examine the impact of comprehensive immigration reform on America's small businesses, with a focus on E-Verify and the impact of mandatory employer participation on America's small businesses. E-Verify is an online employment verification program administered by the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

May 22, 2013: Roundtable titled “Bridging the Skills Gap: How the STEM Education Pipeline Can Develop a High-Skilled American Workforce for Small Business,” Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Ms. Rose Wang, Founder & CEO, Binary Group; Mr. Loren Goodman, Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer, InRule Technology; Mr. Johan Uvin, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, Department of Education; Ms. Gerri Fiala, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor; Ms. Leah Belsky, Senior Vice President, Kaltura; Ms. Dee Mooney, Executive Director, Micron Foundation; Dr. Shree Taylor, Ph.D., Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Delta Decisions of DC; Ms. Naomi Money Penny, Vice President, Research and Media, ManyWorlds, Inc.; Ms. Camsie McAdams, Senior Advisor, STEM, Office of Program Evaluation and Policy, Department of Education; Dr. Joan Ferrini-Mundy, Assistant Director, Education and Human Resources, National Science Foundation; Dr. Bob Kolvoord, Ph.D., Co-Director, Center for STEM Education & Outreach, James Madison University. The Committee met to focus on the challenges that start-ups and small and medium-sized businesses face, related to workforce training and readiness.

June 13, 2013: Markup of S. 511, the Expanding Access to Capital for Entrepreneurial Leaders Act; S. 289, the Commercial Real Estate and Economic Development Act; S. 537, the Communicating Lender Activity Reports from the Small Business Administration Act; and S. 415, the Small Business Disaster Reform Act. Senator Landrieu chaired. S. 511, the Expanding Access to Capital for Entrepreneurial Leaders (or EXCEL) Act, was amended by Senators Landrieu and Risch, and was approved by voice vote. S. 289, the Commercial Real Estate and Economic Development (or CREED) Act, was amended by Senators Landrieu and Risch, and was approved unanimously by voice vote. S. 537, the Communicating Lender Activity Reports from the Small Business Administration (or CLEAR SBA) Act, was amended by Senators Landrieu and Risch, and approved unanimously by voice vote. S. 415, the Small Business Disaster Reform Act, was amended by Senators Landrieu, Shaheen, and Hagan, and was approved 11–6 by recorded vote.

June 20, 2013: Roundtable titled “Sequestration: Small Business Contractors Weathering the Storm in a Climate of Fiscal Uncertainty,” Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Mr. Joseph Misanin, Deputy Director, Technology and Innovation, Office of Small Business Programs, Department of Defense; Ms. Jiyoung Park, Associate Administrator, Office of Small Business Utilization, General Services Administration; Mr. Mauricio Vera, Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, U.S. Agency for International Development; Ms. Dot Harris, Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Utilization, Department of Energy; Mr. Calvin Jenkins, Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Government Contracting & Business Development, U.S. Small Business Administration; Mr. Antwan Ford, President & Co-Founder, Enlightened Inc.; Mr. Kevin Boshears, Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Department of Homeland Security; Mr. Joe Jordan, Administrator, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, Office of Management and Budget; Mr. Brandon Neal, Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization,

Department of Transportation; Mr. Willie H. Smith, Senior Procurement Executive, Department of Transportation; Ms. Nicole Priester, President, Encore Solutions, Inc., Mr. Peter Antoinette, President & CEO, Nanocomp Technologies, Inc., Mr. Roger Jordan, Vice President of Government Relations, Professional Services Council. The Committee met to discuss how federal agencies plan to mitigate the impact of budget cuts on small business contracting goals.

July 17, 2013: Roundtable titled "Small Business Tax Reform: Making the Tax Code Work for Entrepreneurs and Startups," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Ms. Kristie Arslan, President and CEO, National Association for the Self-Employed; Mr. Kenneth B. Canty, P.E., President and CEO, Freeland Construction Company, Inc.; Mr. Mike Eckert, Vice Chairman, Angel Capital Association; Mr. Chris Edwards, Director, Tax Policy Studies, CATO Institute; Mr. Scott Hodge, President, Tax Foundation; Mr. Michael Keeling, President, The ESOP Association; Ms. Annette Nellen, Professor, College of Business, San Jose University; Mr. Greg Nelson, General Manager, Brown Rental, Inc.; Mr. William Randolph, Director, Business & International Taxation, Office of Tax Policy, U.S. Department of the Treasury; Ms. Ann Sullivan, President, Women Impacting Public Policy; Mr. Sandy Zinman, CPA, Owner, Zinman Accounting. The Committee met to discuss what the U.S. tax code should look like to accelerate the start-up and growth of small businesses, as well as the concerns and priorities of America's small businesses as Congress considers tax reform.

July 24, 2013: Hearing titled "Implementation of the Affordable Care Act: Understanding Small Business Concerns," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Ms. Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Deputy Director, Policy and Regulation, Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Mr. J. Mark Iwry, Senior Advisor to the Secretary and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Retirement and Health Policy, U.S. Department of the Treasury; Ms. Meredith K. Olafson, Senior Policy Advisor to the Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration; Ms. Nancy Clark, President, Glen Group, Inc.; Mr. William J. Dennis, Jr., Senior Research Fellow, National Federation of Independent Business; Mr. Jim Houser, Owner, Hawthorne Auto Clinic, Inc.; Mr. Lawrence K. Katz, President and CEO, Jomar Café, Inc. dba Dot's Diner; Mr. Jamal Lee, Director and Chief Engineer, Breasia Studios, LLC; Mr. Kevin Settles, President and CEO, Bardenay Restaurant & Distillery. The Committee met to focus on the implementation of certain provisions of the Affordable Care Act, and their impact on small businesses.

September 18, 2013: Roundtable titled "Closing the Wealth Gap: Empowering America to Reach Its Full Economic Potential for Growth and Job Creation," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Dr. Signe-Mary McKernan, Economist, The Urban Institute; Dr. Rakesh Kochhar, Associate Director, Research, Hispanic Trends, Pew Research Center; Dr. Thomas Boston, Professor, School of Economics, Georgia Tech University; Mr. Darryl K. Hairston, Associate Administrator, Office of Business Development, U.S. Small Business Administration; Mrs. Zenita Wickham Hurley, Esq., Special Secretary of Minority Affairs, Office of Minority Af-

fairs, Maryland Governor's Office; Ms. Toya Powell, Vice President, Operations, U.S. Black Chambers, Inc.; Ms. Connie Evans, President and CEO, Association for Enterprise Opportunity; Ms. Barbara Major, Member, The Collaborative Group; Ms. Lisa Hasegawa, Executive Director, National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development; Mr. Kevin Allis, Tribal Member, Forest County Potawatomi Community, Chairman of the Board, Potawatomi Business Development Corporation; Dr. Shree Taylor, Managing Partner, Delta Decisions of DC, LLC; Ms. Anisa Balwani, President, RCI Technologies, Inc. The Committee met to discuss the economic disparities found within the Wealth Gap Report and to use the opportunity to discuss effective strategies and solutions, within the Committee's jurisdiction, that build wealth in historically disadvantaged communities.

October 10, 2013: Roundtable titled "Strengthening the Future of Women-Owned Business: Reauthorization of SBA's Women's Business Center and Contracting Programs." Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Ms. Erin Andrew, Assistant Administrator, Office of Women's Business Ownership, U.S. Small Business Administration; Ms. Barbara Kasoff, President & CEO, Women Impacting Public Policy; Ms. Samira Cook Gaines, Founding Director, DC Women's Business Center; and Ms. Angela O'Byrne, Owner, Perez APC. The Committee met to discuss the reauthorization of the Small Business Administration's Women Business Center program and the Women's Procurement program.

October 15, 2013: Hearing titled "Small Business Speak: Surviving the Government Shutdown?" Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Ms. Sabrina B. Poole, President & CEO, SERDI, LLC; Ms. Lisa Firestone, President & CEO, Managed Care Advisors; Mr. Antwan Ford, President & CEO, Enlightened, Inc.; Mr. Keith Griffall, CEO, Western Leisure, Inc.; Mr. Chris Leh, President, TL Technologies, Inc.; Mr. Ronald D. Paul, Chairman, Eagle Bancorp, Inc.; Mr. Barun Singh, Founder & Chief Technology Officer, WegoWise, Inc.; Ms. Joaneane Smith, President & CEO, Global Commerce & Services, LLC; Mr. Charles Withee, President, The Provident Bank; Ms. Sally B. Robertson, President, Business Finance Group, Inc. The Committee met to hear testimony from small business owners on how the federal government shutdown was hurting their businesses.

November 8, 2013: Field Hearing titled "From Warriors to Entrepreneurs: Business Opportunities for Veterans," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Ms. Jeanne A. Hulit, Acting Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration; Ms. Janet M. Roderick, ASBTDC State Director, UALR College of Business; Mr. David Wallace, Wallace Staffing and Labor; Mr. Damian Coleman, Marquette GIS, Inc.; Ms. Anita Montgomery; Ms. Linda R. Nelson, CPA, Arkansas Small Business Administration Director; Mr. Jeff Frisby, Enlisted Association of the Arkansas National Guard; Mr. Kevin Kidd, Taco Kidd; Ms. Itzel Meador, Arkansas Capital Corporation Group; Ms. Esther Fitch. The Committee met to discuss efforts to provide entrepreneurship training and business counseling for our nation's veterans and returning service members.

November 13, 2013: Roundtable titled "Serving our Service Members: A Review of Programs for Veteran Entrepreneurs," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Mr. C.E. Rowe, President and

CEO, America's SBDC; Lt. Col. Jason C. Anderson, Founder and CEO, Active-Duty Entrepreneur, LLC; Ms. Robin D. Kistler, Director, LSU Executive Education, Louisiana State University; Mr. Aaron Dirks, Chairman, PosiGen; Mr. Chris Ferguson, President, Shoulder 2 Shoulder Inc.; Mr. Louis J. Celli, Jr., Director, National Legislative Division, The American Legion; Mr. Rhett Jeppson, Associate Administrator, Office of Veterans Business Development, U.S. Small Business Administration; Mr. Robert Rehder, Director, Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC), Fayetteville State University; Mr. Joe Wynn, President, Vets Group, Inc.; Dr. Mike Haynie, Ph.D., Executive Director and Founder, Institute for Veterans and Military Families, Syracuse University. The Committee met to discuss efforts at the local, state, and national level to provide entrepreneurship training and business counseling for our nation's veterans and returning service members.

November 20, 2013: Hearing titled "Affordable Care Act Implementation: Examining How to Achieve a Successful Rollout of the Small Business Exchanges," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Mr. David Allen, President & CEO, David Allen Enterprises, LLC; Ms. Sheila A. Salter, Founder & CEO, early2surge; Ms. Connie Evans, President & CEO, Association for Enterprise Opportunity; Mr. Drew Greenblatt, Owner, Marlin Steel Wire Products; Dr. Martin Hickey, MD, CEO, New Mexico Health Connections; Ms. Mila Kofman, Executive Director, DC Health Benefit Exchange Authority; Mr. William Nold, Deputy Executive Director, Office of the Kentucky Health Benefit Exchange; The Honorable Phyllis C. Borzi, Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor; Mr. Gary Cohen, Deputy Administrator & Director, Center for Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services; Ms. Marianne O'Brien Markowitz, Regional Administrator, Region V, U.S. Small Business Administration. The Committee met to focus on the implementation of the Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) Exchanges under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

December 18, 2013: Roundtable titled "SBIR/STTR: Measuring the Effectiveness of the Reauthorization Act and Maximizing Research Dollars to America's Small Businesses," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Mr. Jere Glover, Executive Director, Small Business Technology Council; Dr. Dave Green, Ph.D., President and CEO, Physical Sciences, Inc.; Mr. Andre Gudger, Director, Office of Small Business Programs, U.S. Department of Defense; Ms. Jenny Houston, Executive Vice President, Warwick Mills; Dr. Mahendra K. Jain, Senior Vice President, Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation; Dr. Manny Oliver, Director, SBIR/STTR Programs Office, U.S. Department of Energy; Mr. Matthew Portnoy, Director, Office of Extramural Programs, National Institutes of Health; Ms. Pravina Raghavan, Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Investment and Innovation, U.S. Small Business Administration; Mr. Chris Rinaldi, SBIR/STTR Program Administrator, Office of Small Business Programs, U.S. Department of Defense; Mr. Frank Rusco, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Dr. Robert Savoie, CEO, Geocent, LLC; Ms. Lisa Sobolewski, SBIR Program Director, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Dr. Charles Wessner, Director,

Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship, National Academy of Sciences. The Committee met to review the Small Business Administration's progress in implementing the provisions of the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2011, and if the changes are delivering the benefits to small businesses and the taxpayers, as intended.

SECOND SESSION²

January 21, 2014: Field Hearing titled "Fueling America—Enabling and Empowering Small Businesses to Unleash Domestic Production," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Mr. Stephen Comstock, Director, Tax and Accounting Policy, American Petroleum Institute; Mr. Lee Jackson, Founder, Jackson Offshore Operators; Mr. Stephen Landry, Partner, Ernst & Young Accounting; Ms. Gigi Lazenby, Managing Member and CEO, Bretagne, LLC; Mr. Joe LeBlanc, Co-Founder and Senior Managing Director, PerPetro Energy, LLC; Jennifer Stewart, Vice President of Tax, Southwestern Energy. The Committee met to better understand capital strategies that independent producers employ as small business owners, their role in creating high-skilled, high-wage jobs for America, and their overall impact to our economy.

February 12, 2014: Joint Hearing with the Special Committee on Aging titled "In Search of a Second Act: The Challenges and Advantages of Senior Entrepreneurship," Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from Ms. Conchy Bretos, CEO and Founder, Mia Senior Living Solutions; Ms. Elizabeth Isele, Co-Founder, Senior Entrepreneurship Works and Founder of SavvySeniorsWork.org; Ms. Tameka Montgomery, Associate Administrator, Office of Entrepreneurial Development, U.S. Small Business Administration; Mr. Ken Yancey, CEO, SCORE Association. The Committee met to examine how senior entrepreneurship impacts the economy, society, and retirement security, why seniors make good entrepreneurs, and what the government's role should be in helping older Americans pursue entrepreneurship instead of full-time retirement.

February 12, 2014: Hearing on the nomination of Maria Contreras-Sweet to be Administrator at the Small Business Administration, Senator Landrieu chaired. Testimony from the Honorable Diane Feinstein, United States Senator; Ms. Maria Contreras-Sweet, Administrator, United States Small Business Administration (Nominee). The Committee met to consider the nomination of Maria Contreras-Sweet to be Administrator at the Small Business Administration.

March 5, 2014: Markup for the nomination of Maria Contreras-Sweet to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration, Senator Cantwell chaired. Reported favorably out of Committee by unanimous voice vote.

April 9, 2014: Hearing on the FY 2015 Budget Request for the Small Business Administration, Senator Cantwell chaired. Testimony from the Honorable Maria Contreras-Sweet, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration; the Honorable Peggy E. Gustafson, Inspector General, U.S. Small Business Administration; the

²The Committee also held two informal, unofficial events during the second session: on May 15, 2014, the Committee hosted a "Small Business Week" reception honoring 2014 SBA Award Winners, and a coffee reception for women entrepreneurs on July 23, 2014, titled "Women's Business Opportunities Reception."

Honorable Winslow Sargeant, Chief Counsel for Advocacy, U.S. Small Business Administration. The Committee met to focus on President Obama's FY 2015 budget request for the operation and programs of Small Business Administration, as well as for the SBA's Office of Inspector General and Office of Advocacy.

April 16, 2014: Field Hearing titled "Capital Access for Main Street: Meeting Opportunities of Growth along the Lower Columbia," Senator Cantwell chaired. Testimony from Mr. Mike Bomar, Executive Director, Columbia River Economic Development Council; Mr. Craig Chance, Senior Vice President, Community Financial Resources, Columbia Bank; Ms. Amy O'Hara, Business Co-Owner, When the Shoe Fits; Mr. Eric Sawyer, Vice Chair of the Board of Directors, Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Gregg Swanson, Vice President and Chief Lending Officer, Evergreen Business Capital; Ms. Jessika Tantisook, Farm Keeper, Starvation Alley Farms. The Committee met to hear from small businesses and lenders about the economic decline experienced by Southwest Washington and Oregon, which were greatly impacted by the economic recession. The field hearing also sought to better understand the issues facing job creators related to access to capital in the region, and to concentrate on ways to improve the Small Business Administration's 7(a) and 504 loan programs.

April 24, 2014: Field Hearing titled "Driving Job Growth: Small Business Innovation and Research," Senator Cantwell chaired. Testimony from the Honorable Maria Contreras-Sweet, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration; Mr. Rob Afzal, Lockheed Martin Aculight; Mr. Robert Barry, Co-Founder and CEO, Stasys Medical Corporation; Ms. Adriane Brown, President and CEO, Intellectual Ventures; Mr. John Neumann, Acting Director, and Hilary M. Benedict, Assistant Director, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Ms. Linden Rhoads, Vice Provost, Center for Commercialization, University of Washington; Mr. Russ Weed, UE Technologies. The Committee met to hear from microlenders and CDFIs about their work across Washington State.

June 4, 2014: Hearing titled "From Military Service to Small Business Owner: Supporting America's Veterans Entrepreneurs," Senator Cantwell chaired. Testimony from Ms. Julianna Duso, Program Director, Veterans Business Outreach Center, U.S. Small Business Administration; Mr. Rhett Jeppson, Associate Administrator, Office of Veterans Business Development, U.S. Small Business Administration; Mr. Gary Multanen, CEO, Best Bath Systems, Inc.; Ms. Trena Payton, President, ABN Technologies; Mr. Dan Proulx, Jr. Member Manager, Monument Construction, LLC. The Committee met to focus on what the current Administration—in concert with the new SBA Administrator—is doing to help boost veterans' entrepreneurship and small business ownership. They also discussed pending legislation aimed at helping veterans' small business ownership and entrepreneurial development programs within the SBA.

June 18, 2014: Hearing titled "Growing Small Business Exports, Growing U.S. Jobs," Senator Cantwell chaired. Testimony from Mr. Mark Calhoon, Senior Managing Director, Business Services Division, Washington State Department of Commerce; Mr. Robert Campbell, President and CEO, Alliance Solutions Group, Inc.; Mr. Eric Hahn, Vice President, Organizational Development, General

Plastics Manufacturing Company; Mr. W. Dan Hendrix, President and CEO, Arkansas World Trade Center; Mr. Donald F. Tyler, Director, Corfin Industries, LLC; Ms. Jennifer Verdon, Manager of International Business, Idaho Commerce Department. The Committee met to discuss ways to increase both the number of small businesses that export, and the volume of those exports.

July 23, 2014: Hearing titled "Empowering Women Entrepreneurs: Understanding Success, Addressing Persistent Challenges, and Identifying New Opportunities," Senator Cantwell chaired. Testimony from the Honorable Maria Contreras-Sweet, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration; Ms. Barbara Corcoran, Founder, The Corcoran Group & ABC's 'SHARK TANK'; Ms. Lori Meeder, Senior Loan Officer, Northern Initiatives; Ms. Nely Galan, Founder, Galán Entertainment & Adelante Movement; Ms. Lynn Sutton, Chief Executive Officer, Advantage Building Contractors; Ms. Veronica O. Davis, P.E. Partner & Principal Planning Manager, Nspiregreen, LLC; Ms. Susan Sylvester, President & Chief Financial Officer, Absolute Resource Associates; Ms. Victoria Wortberg, Program Manager, Washington Center for Women in Business. The Committee met to highlight the success of women entrepreneurs, and to grow support for reauthorizing the women's business center program, creating parity for the women-owned small business program, and giving women business owners better access to capital, in part, through microloans.

August 20, 2014: Roundtable titled "21st Century Challenges and Opportunities for Women Entrepreneurs in the Northwest," Senator Cantwell chaired. Testimony from Ms. Carrie Ferrence, CEO and Co-Founder, Stockbox Neighborhood Grocery; Ms. Ollie Garrett, President, Tabor 100; Ms. Julie Huston, Executive Vice President, Small Business, U.S. Bank; Ms. Barbara Kasoff, President, Women Impacting Public Policy; Ms. Susan Preston, General Partner, CalCEF Clean Energy Angel Fund; Ms. Karyn Schwartz, Proprietor, SugarPill; Ms. Lee Rhodes, Founder, glassybaby. The Committee met in Seattle, Washington to discuss a new report issued by the Committee, titled *21st Century Barriers to Women's Entrepreneurship*. This report highlighted the fact that women-owned small businesses in Washington state face a larger gender gap than women nationwide in access to capital and federal contracting.

OVERSIGHT

Letter to the Secretary of Health and Human Services Regarding the Proposed Delay of the Implementation of SHOP Exchanges: On March 18, 2013, Chair Landrieu issued a letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, noting concern that a delayed implementation of Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) exchanges would deny employees the choice of insurance provider, and would increase healthcare costs for small businesses.

Letter to the Secretary of Defense Regarding Concern Over the Effect of Sequestration-level Spending on Small Business Concerns: On April 1, 2013, Chair Landrieu sent a letter to Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, to express her concern that reduced spending implemented under the Budget Control Act of 2011 would have a negative impact on small business concerns. The Chair asked that implementation of the sequestration-level spending not impose a

disproportionate share of the burden on small businesses, or on federal agencies' small business contracting goals.

Letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regarding Proposed Amendments to Secondary Containment and Operator Training Regulations: On July 23, 2013, Chair Landrieu and Senators Enzi, Fischer, Heitkamp, Johnson, Pryor, Risch, Rubio, Scott, Shaheen, and Vitter, sent a letter to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy requesting a Small Business Advocacy Review and Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis in light of predicted compliance costs. The letter also noted the significant gap between projections by the agency and by industry experts.

Letter to the Secretary of the Navy Regarding SBIR Outreach and Commercialization, and the Navy's Opportunity Forum: On July 26, 2013, Chair Landrieu sent a letter to Secretary of the U.S. Navy Ray Mabus, urging the approval of the annual Navy Opportunity Forum. The Chair stated that the Forum has served as one of the most popular and effective ways that small businesses have found government or private-sector partners to advance and commercialize their innovations developed through the SBIR and STTR programs.

Letter to the Environmental Protection Agency Regarding Proposed Revisions to Underground Storage Tank Regulations for Small Businesses: On August 2, 2013, Senator Tom Harkin sent a letter to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy noting concern about the large discrepancy in estimated compliance costs for small businesses that were reported by the EPA compared to small business sources. Senator Harkin expressed his hope that the EPA would further review the effects of the regulation given the differing figures.

Letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regarding Proposed Revisions to Underground Storage Tank Regulations for Small Businesses: On August 6, 2013, Senators Levin and Hagan sent a letter to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy asking for a review of the proposed regulation revision, due to a large discrepancy in estimated compliance costs for small businesses between EPA and small business experts.

Letter to the Secretary of Health and Human Services Regarding the HHPS Proposed Implementation of Home Health Payment Re-basing: On September 17, 2013, Chair Landrieu issued a letter to HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius noting concern that the maximum allowable rebasing adjustment between 2014 and 2017 would increase costs for Medicare beneficiaries and negatively affect small business healthcare providers that often work in medically underserved areas.

Letter to the Acting Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration Regarding a Request to Re-Open the Comment Period for the Commercialization Benchmark: On September 18, 2013, Chair Landrieu sent a letter to Acting Administrator of the SBA Jeanne Hult, to thank her and her staff for working on the Chair's request to re-open the comment period for the Commercialization Benchmark for the SBIR and STTR programs. The Chair expressed that many in the small business community had asked for more time to review the proposed benchmark, time the Chair believed was important, to ensure that the benchmark fairly evaluated SBIR and STTR firms.

Letter to the Secretary of Defense Regarding Coordination of the SBIR Program with the EPSCoR and IDeA Programs: On September 18, 2013, Chair Landrieu, Ranking Member Risch, and Congressman Cedric Richmond of Louisiana, sent a letter to Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, to express their approval that leaders of the DoD SBIR program had met with representatives from EPSCoR/IDeA states to identify the best ways to collaborate and leverage the SBIR program in those areas of the country.

Letter to the Department of the Treasury Regarding Employer Shared Responsibility Provisions of the Affordable Care Act: On December 20, 2013, Chair Landrieu and Senators Hagan, Heitkamp, Markey, Pryor, and Shaheen sent a letter to Treasury Secretary Lew, requesting that specific regulatory flexibility of six months to a year be given to “In-Transition Small Businesses” that had recently passed 50 employees, but did not have enough time to plan for providing health coverage the next year. The letter noted that such flexibility was within the spirit of the bill passed by Congress.

Letter to the Secretary of Labor Regarding the Extension of the Comment Period for Proposed OSHA Rule: On January 6, 2014, Chair Landrieu sent a letter to Secretary Thomas Perez, U.S. Department of Labor, requesting that the comment period for a proposed OSHA rule (“Occupational Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica” rule, or the “Silica Rule”) be extended. This extension was originally requested by Dr. Winslow Sargeant, Chief Counsel for Advocacy at the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Office of Advocacy, to allow small businesses and their representatives adequate time to evaluate and assess the impact of the Silica Rule.

Letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Regarding Funding for the Small Business Administration’s Microloan Program: On April 10, 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell was joined by Senators Stabenow, Levin, Gillibrand, Hagan, Leahy, Shaheen, Markey, Warren, Franken, Walsh, Schumer, Baldwin, Murphy, Durbin, Heinrich, Boxer, Blumenthal, King, Landrieu, Klobuchar, and Tester, in signing a letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, Senators Tom Udall and Mike Johanns. The signers of the letter requested that the SBA’s Microloan Program be reauthorized and adequately funded for FY 2015.

Letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Regarding Funding for the Small Business Administration’s 7(a) Loan Guaranty Program: On April 10, 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell and Ranking Member Risch were joined by Senators Landrieu, Levin, Shaheen, Markey, Baldwin, Cardin, Franken, Hirono, Murphy, Leahy, Warren, Schatz, Boxer, Schumer, Brown, and Booker, in signing a letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, Senators Tom Udall and Mike Johanns. The signers of the letter requested that the SBA’s 7(a) Loan Guaranty Program be reauthorized and adequately funded for FY 2015.

Letter to the Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration and to the Associate Administrator of the Small Business Administration’s Office of Investment & Innovation Regarding the SBIC Program: On April 10, 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell along

with Senators Landrieu and Booker, sent a letter to SBA Administrator Maria Contreras-Sweet and Office of Investment & Innovation Associate Administrator Javier Saade. The signers of the letter expressed their concern that the SBIR program may not be adequately reaching many qualified minority- and women-owned small businesses. They requested that the SBA make a commitment to boosting participation rates among minority- and women-owned businesses in the program, as well as to increasing diversity among fund managers.

Letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Regarding Funding for the Small Business Administration's State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP) Grant Program: On April 11, 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell was joined by Senators Landrieu, Shaheen, Hagan, Whitehouse, Klobuchar, Heitkamp, Reed, Cardin, Murphy, Merkley, Schumer, Kaine, Blumenthal, Leahy, Wyden, Schatz, Franken, and Hirono, in signing a letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, Senators Tom Udall and Mike Johanns. The signers of the letter requested that the SBA authorize and fund the STEP grant program for FY 2015.

Letter to the Government Accountability Office Regarding Chairwoman Cantwell's Status as a Requester for Two GAO Evaluations Made by Chair Landrieu: On May 15, 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell sent a letter to GAO Comptroller Gene Dodaro asking to become a requester for GAO evaluations of both the SBA's Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program, and the Underutilized Business Zone Program, which had been requested by Senator Landrieu in her capacity as Chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Letter to the Defense Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee Regarding the Repeal of Section 811 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011: on May 16, 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell sent a letter to Defense Subcommittee Chair Richard Durbin, expressing support for a letter sent by Senators Begich and Tester. Chairwoman Cantwell expressed her concern over the decline of sole source contracts given to small businesses by the Department of Defense, as well as the negative impact that section 811 has had on Native American communities.

Letter to the Environmental Protection Agency Regarding the Definition of "Waters of the United States" under the Clean Water Act: On June 6, 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell and Ranking Member Risch sent a letter to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and Major General John Peabody, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, asking that the comment period for the proposed rule change be extended to 180 days. Further, they requested a Small Business Advocacy Review panel to collect data and consider input before implementing the rule to better ascertain expected costs to small businesses.

Letter to the U.S. Small Business Administration Regarding the ScaleUp America Entrepreneurship Training Program: On August 12, 2014, Senator Cantwell sent a letter to SBA Associate Administrator Tameka Montgomery, Office of Entrepreneurial Development, in support of Thurston Economic Development Council Business Resource Center's application to the ScaleUp program, re-

questing the Office of Entrepreneurial Development's full consideration.

Letter to the US Senate Regarding the Announcement of Small Business Saturday: On September 10, 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell and Ranking Member Risch sent a letter to their colleagues to inform them that November 29, 2014 had been designated Small Business Saturday, and to express support for the belief in the fundamental importance of small businesses for the American economy.

Letter to the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee Regarding Continuing Resolution or Omnibus Appropriations for Small Business: On September 22, 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell sent a letter to Subcommittee Chairman Tom Udall, asking that the State Trade and Export Program be made permanent to encourage small business exports. Further, the Chairwoman expressed her thanks for adjustments to the SBA microloan program, as well as asking for support to reauthorize, improve, and fund the Intermediary Lending Program.

Letter to the Office of Management and Budget Regarding the Small Business Administration's Delay or Halting of Funds, per their Determination of the Anti-Deficiency Act: On September 24, 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell, Ranking Member Risch, and Senators Schatz and Hirono, sent a letter to OMB General Counsel Geovette Washington, Esq. to raise concerns about the SBA's selective approach to delaying or halting loans approved under the 504 program. Due to the SBA's decision to not uniformly enforce its determination that employees might be in violation of the Anti-Deficiency Act (ADA), loan programs operating through other Federal agencies may also be affected, thus harming small businesses.

Letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Regarding Funding for the Small Business Administration's Intermediary Lending Program: On November 21, 2014, Chairwoman Cantwell was joined by Senators Levin, Booker, Merkley, Walsh, Harkin, and Casey, in signing a letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, Senators Tom Udall and Mike Johanns. The signers of the letter requested that the SBA's Intermediary Lending Program (ILP) be reauthorized, improved, and adequately funded for FY 2015.

RULES FOR THE U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

(Adopted February 13, 2013)

JURISDICTION

Per Rule XXV(1) of the Standing Rules of the Senate:

(o)(1) Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship to which committee shall be referred all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the Small Business Administration;

(2) Any proposed legislation reported by such committee which relates to matters other than the functions of the Small Business Administration shall, at the request of the chairman of any stand-

ing committee having jurisdiction over the subject matter extraneous to the functions of the Small Business Administration, be considered and reported by such standing committee prior to its consideration by the Senate; and likewise measures reported by other committees directly relating to the Small Business Administration shall, at the request of the Chair of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, be referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship for its consideration of any portion of the measure dealing with the Small Business Administration and be reported by this committee prior to its consideration by the Senate.

(3) Such committee shall also study and survey by means of research and investigation all problems of American small business enterprises, and report thereon from time to time.

GENERAL SECTION

All applicable provisions of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Senate Resolutions, and the Legislative Reorganization Acts of 1946 and of 1970 (as amended), shall govern the Committee.

MEETINGS

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee shall be the first Thursday of each month unless otherwise directed by the Chair. All other meetings may be called by the Chair as he or she deems necessary, on 5 business days' notice where practicable. If at least three Members of the Committee desire the Chair to call a special meeting, they may file in the office of the Committee a written request therefore, addressed to the Chair. Immediately thereafter, the Clerk of the Committee shall notify the Chair of such request. If, within 3 calendar days after the filing of such request, the Chair fails to call the requested special meeting, which is to be held within 7 calendar days after the filing of such request, a majority of the Committee Members may file in the Office of the Committee their written notice that a special Committee meeting will be held, specifying the date, hour and place thereof, and the Committee shall meet at that time and place. Immediately upon the filing of such notice, the Clerk of the Committee shall notify all Committee Members that such special meeting will be held and inform them of its date, hour and place. If the Chair is not present at any regular, additional or special meeting or hearing, such member of the Committee as the Chair shall designate shall preside. For any meeting or hearing of the Committee, the Ranking Member may delegate to any Minority Member the authority to serve as Ranking Member, and that Minority Member shall be afforded all the rights and responsibilities of the Ranking Member for the duration of that meeting or hearing. Notice of any designation shall be provided to the Chief Clerk as early as practicable.

(b) It shall not be in order for the Committee to consider any amendment in the first degree proposed to any measure under consideration by the Committee unless an electronic copy of such amendment has been delivered to the Clerk of the Committee at least 2 business days prior to the meeting. Following receipt of all amendments, the Clerk shall disseminate the amendments to all Members of the Committee. This subsection may be waived by

agreement of the Chair and Ranking Member or by a majority vote of the members of the Committee.

QUORUMS

(a)(1) A majority of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for reporting any legislative measure or nomination.

(2) One-third of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of routine business, provided that one Minority Member is present. The term "routine business" includes, but is not limited to, the consideration of legislation pending before the Committee and any amendments thereto, and voting on such amendments, and steps in an investigation including, but not limited to, authorizing the issuance of a subpoena.

(3) In hearings, whether in public or closed session, a quorum for the asking of testimony, including sworn testimony, shall consist of one Member of the Committee. (b) Proxies will be permitted in voting upon the business of the Committee. A Member who is unable to attend a business meeting may submit a proxy vote on any matter, in writing, or through oral or written personal instructions to a Member of the Committee or staff. Proxies shall in no case be counted for establishing a quorum.

NOMINATIONS

In considering a nomination, the Committee shall conduct an investigation or review of the nominee's experience, qualifications, suitability, and integrity to serve in the position to which he or she has been nominated. In any hearings on the nomination, the nominee shall be called to testify under oath on all matters relating to his or her nomination for office. To aid in such investigation or review, each nominee may be required to submit a sworn detailed statement including biographical, financial, policy, and other information which the Committee may request. The Committee may specify which items in such statement are to be received on a confidential basis.

HEARINGS

(a)(1) The Chair of the Committee may initiate a hearing of the Committee on his or her authority or upon his or her approval of a request by any Member of the Committee. If such request is by the Ranking Member, a decision shall be communicated to the Ranking Member within 7 business days. Written notice of all hearings, including the title, a description of the hearing, and a tentative witness list shall be given at least 5 business days in advance, where practicable, to all Members of the Committee.

(2) Hearings of the Committee shall not be scheduled outside the District of Columbia unless specifically authorized by the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member or by consent of a majority of the Committee. Such consent may be given informally, without a meeting, but must be in writing.

(b)(1) Any Member of the Committee shall be empowered to administer the oath to any witness testifying as to fact.

(2) The Chair and Ranking Member shall be empowered to call an equal number of witnesses to a Committee hearing. Subject to

Senate Standing Rule 26(4)(d), such number shall exclude any Administration witness unless such witness would be the sole hearing witness, in which case the Ranking Member shall be entitled to invite one witness. The preceding two sentences shall not apply when a witness appears as the nominee. Interrogation of witnesses at hearings shall be conducted on behalf of the Committee by Members of the Committee or such Committee staff as is authorized by the Chair or Ranking Minority Member.

(3) Witnesses appearing before the Committee shall file with the Clerk of the Committee a written statement of the prepared testimony at least two business days in advance of the hearing at which the witness is to appear unless this requirement is waived by the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member.

(c) Any witness summoned to a public or closed hearing may be accompanied by counsel of his or her own choosing, who shall be permitted while the witness is testifying to advise the witness of his or her legal rights. Failure to obtain counsel will not excuse the witness from appearing and testifying.

(d) Subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses or the production of memoranda, documents, records, and other materials may be authorized by the Chair with the consent of the Ranking Minority Member or by the consent of a majority of the Members of the Committee. Such consent may be given informally, without a meeting, but must be in writing. The Chair may subpoena attendance or production without the consent of the Ranking Minority Member when the Chair has not received notification from the Ranking Minority Member of disapproval of the subpoena within 72 hours of being notified of the intended subpoena, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Subpoenas shall be issued by the Chair or by the Member of the Committee designated by him or her. A subpoena for the attendance of a witness shall state briefly the purpose of the hearing and the matter or matters to which the witness is expected to testify. A subpoena for the production of memoranda, documents, records, and other materials shall identify the papers or materials required to be produced with as much particularity as is practicable.

(e) The Chair shall rule on any objections or assertions of privilege as to testimony or evidence in response to subpoenas or questions of Committee Members and staff in hearings.

(f) Testimony may be submitted to the formal record for a period not less than two weeks following a hearing or roundtable, unless otherwise agreed to by Chair and Ranking Member.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

(a) No confidential testimony taken by, or confidential material presented to, the Committee in executive session, or any report of the proceedings of a closed hearing, or confidential testimony or material submitted pursuant to a subpoena, shall be made public, either in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless authorized by a majority of the Members. Other confidential material or testimony submitted to the Committee may be disclosed if authorized by the Chair with the consent of the Ranking Member.

(b) Persons asserting confidentiality of documents or materials submitted to the Committee offices shall clearly designate them as

such on their face. Designation of submissions as confidential does not prevent their use in furtherance of Committee business.

MEDIA AND BROADCASTING

(a) At the discretion of the Chair, public meetings of the Committee may be televised, broadcasted, or recorded in whole or in part by a member of the Senate Press Gallery or an employee of the Senate. Any such person wishing to televise, broadcast, or record a Committee meeting must request approval of the Chair by submitting a written request to the Committee Office by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting. Notice of televised or broadcasted hearings shall be provided to the Ranking Minority Member as soon as practicable. (b) During public meetings of the Committee, any person using a camera, microphone, or other electronic equipment may not position or use the equipment in a way that interferes with the seating, vision, or hearing of Committee members or staff on the dais, or with the orderly process of the meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEES

The Committee shall not have standing subcommittees.

AMENDMENT OF RULES

The foregoing rules may be added to, modified or amended; provided, however, that not less than a majority of the entire Membership so determined at a regular meeting with due notice, or at a meeting specifically called for that purpose.

STAFF OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

BEGINNING OF FIRST SESSION

Jane L. Campbell, Democratic Staff Director¹
Skiffington E. Holderness, Republican Staff Director

Democratic Staffers:

Caroline Bruckner, General Counsel
Krystal Brumfield, Tax Procurement Counsel
Kristen Bushnell, Executive Assistant to the Staff Director, Re-
search Analyst
David Gillers, Counsel
Christina Jones, Staff Assistant
Ross Nodurft, Senior Research Analyst
Claire O'Rourke, Professional Staff Member
Irma Palmer, Press Secretary
Ruda Pollard, Staff Assistant
Ami Sanchez, Counsel
Rob Sawicki, Communications Director
Ashley Scott, Professional Staff Member
Jim Simpson, Policy Correspondent, Legislative Aide
Brian van Hook, Policy Director
Kevin Wheeler, Deputy Staff Director
Afton Zaunbrecher, Policy Correspondent, Legislative Aide

Republican Staffers:

Tara Crumb, Staff Assistant
James Gelfand, Counsel
Wally Hsueh, Deputy Staff Director
Shelley New, Research Analyst
Adam Reece, Senior Professional Staff
Meredith West, Senior Professional Staff

Non-Designated Staffers:

Derek Pangallo, Systems Administrator
Lena Postanowicz, Chief Clerk

¹Jane Campbell served as Staff Director until May 12, 2014, at which point Jonathan Hale assumed the position.

STAFF OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP *

CONCLUSION OF SECOND SESSION

Jonathan S. Hale, Democratic Staff Director
Skiffington E. Holderness, Republican Staff Director

Democratic Staffers:

Jane Campbell, Senior Advisor
John Fogarty, Research Analyst
Rosemary Gutierrez, Senior Advisor
Ami Sanchez, Counsel
Carl Seip, Policy Advisor
Nick Sutter, Professional Staff Member
Kevin Wheeler, Deputy Staff Director
Alison Mueller, Detailee, *Small Business Administration*
Charlene van Dijk, Detailee, *Department of the Treasury*

Republican Staffers:

Christina Aizcorbe, Counsel
Kristen Granchelli, Professional Staff
Wally Hsueh, Deputy Staff Director
Adam Reece, Senior Professional Staff
Eleni Valanos, Staff Assistant
Meredith West, Senior Professional Staff

Non-Designated Staffers:

Ruda Pollard, Deputy Clerk, Systems Administrator
Lena Postanowicz, Chief Clerk
Katie Rodihan, Staff Assistant, Researcher

LEGISLATION REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE

S. 196, a bill to assure equity in contracting between the Federal Government and small business concerns, and for other purposes. Mr. Udall of New Mexico. Jan 31, 2013.

S. 206, a bill to expand the HUBZone program for communities affected by base realignment and closure, and for other purposes. Ms. Collins. Jan 31, 2013.

S. 259, a bill to assure equity in contracting between the Federal Government and small business concerns, and for other purposes. Mr. Udall of New Mexico. Feb 7, 2013.

S. 289, a bill to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration. Ms. Landrieu. Feb 12, 2013.

S. 415, a bill to clarify the collateral requirement for certain loans under section 7(d) of the Small Business Act, to address assistance to out-of-State small business concerns, and for other purposes. Ms. Landrieu. Feb 28, 2013.

S. 511, a bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to enhance the Small Business Investment Company Program, and for other purposes. Ms. Landrieu. Mar 11, 2013.

*The following individuals also served as staff on the Committee. However, as their period of employment began after the start of the 113th Congress, and concluded before its end, they are not listed above:

Christie Herman, Staff Assistant (Republican Staff)
Shadawn Reddick-Smith, Press Assistant, Policy Correspondent (Democratic Staff)

S. 535, a bill to require a study and report by the Small Business Administration regarding the costs to small business concerns of Federal regulations. Mr. Rubio. Mar 12, 2013.

S. 537, a bill to require the Small Business Administration to make information relating to lenders making covered loans publicly available, and for other purposes. Ms. Landrieu. Mar 12, 2013.

S. 550, a bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to provide for increased limitations on leverage for multiple licenses under common control, and for other purposes. Mr. Risch. Mar 13, 2013.

S. 936, a bill to increase oversight of small business assistance programs provided by the Small Business Administration. Mr. Heller. May 14, 2013.

S. 1190, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to permit agencies to count certain contracts toward contracting goals. Mr. Enzi. Jun 19, 2013.

S. 1285, a bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to enhance the Small Business Investment Company Program and provide for a small business early-stage investment program. Ms. Baldwin. Jul 11, 2013.

S. 1440, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to allow the use of physical damage disaster loans for the construction of safe rooms. Ms. Landrieu. Aug 1, 2013.

S. 1454, a bill to authorize the Small Business Administrator to establish a grant program to empower encore entrepreneurs. Ms. Landrieu. Aug 1, 2013.

S. 1607, a bill to provide conformity in Native small business opportunities and promote job creation, manufacturing, and American economic recovery. Mr. Schatz. Oct 29, 2013.

S. 2008, a bill to strengthen resources for entrepreneurs by improving the SCORE program, and for other purposes. Ms. Landrieu. Feb 10, 2014.

S. 2143, a bill to increase access to capital for veteran entrepreneurs to help create jobs. Mrs. Shaheen. Mar 13, 2014.

S. 2334, a bill to amend the Small Business Act and title 38, United States Code, to provide for a consolidated definition of a small business concern owned and controlled by veterans, and for other purposes. Mr. King. May 14, 2014.

S. 2396, a bill to establish the veterans' business outreach center program, to improve the programs for veterans of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes. Mr. Pryor. May 22, 2014.

S. 2481, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide authority for sole source contracts for certain small business concerns owned and controlled by women, and for other purposes. Mrs. Shaheen. Jun 17, 2014.

S. 2487, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to increase the maximum loan limits under the microloan program, and for other purposes. Mrs. Fischer. Jun 18, 2014.

S. 2551, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to establish the Innovative Approaches to Technology Transfer Grant Program. Mrs. Gillibrand. Jun 26, 2014.

S. 2582, a bill to establish a pilot program to assist in expanding and diversifying the business of small business concerns that rely

on amounts awarded for Federal contracts and subcontracts. Mr. Udall of New Mexico. Jul 10, 2014.

S. 2637, a bill to modify the small business intermediary lending program. Mr. Levin. Jul 22, 2014.

S. 2693, a bill to reauthorize the women's business center program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes. Ms. Cantwell. Jul 30, 2014.

S. 2794, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to direct the task force of the Office of Veterans Business Development to provide access to and manage the distribution of overseas excess or surplus property to veteran-owned small businesses. Mr. Durbin. Sep 11, 2014.

S. 2850, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to create a program to provide funding for organizations that support startup businesses in formation and early growth stages by providing entrepreneurs with resources and services to produce viable businesses, and for other purposes. Mr. Booker. Sep 17, 2014.

S. Res. 39, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship for March 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013. Ms. Landrieu. Feb 25, 2013.

S. Res. 235, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship for October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2014, and October 1, 2014, through February 28, 2015. Ms. Landrieu. Sep 17, 2013.

