

98TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1920

To amend the Small Business Act to establish a Small Business Computer Crime and Security Task Force, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 4 (legislative day, OCTOBER 3), 1983

Mr. TSONGAS (for himself and Mr. NUNN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business

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## A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to establish a Small Business Computer Crime and Security Task Force, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### 3 SHORT TITLE

4 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the "Small Busi-  
5 ness Computer Crime Prevention Act".

### 6 FINDINGS AND PURPOSES

7 SEC. 2. (a) The Congress hereby finds that—

8 (1) there is an increased dependency on, and pro-  
9 liferation of, information technology (including comput-

1           ers, data networks, and other communication devices)  
2           in the small business community;

3           (2) such technology has permitted and expanded  
4           criminal activity against small business concerns; and

5           (3) small business concerns are not always able to  
6           protect their information technology from computer  
7           criminals.

8           (b) The purposes of this Act are—

9           (1) to improve the management by small business  
10          concerns of their information technology; and

11          (2) to encourage small business concerns to pro-  
12          tect such technology from criminal activity.

13           **COMPUTER CRIME AND SECURITY TASK FORCE**

14           **SEC. 3.** Section 4(b) of the Small Business Act (15  
15           U.S.C. 633(b)) is amended by adding at the end thereof the  
16           following new paragraph:

17           “(3)(A) The Administrator shall, not later than sixty  
18           days after the effective date of this paragraph, establish a  
19           task force to be known as the Small Business Computer  
20           Crime and Security Task Force.

21           “(B) The task force shall consist of the following  
22           members:

23           “(i) an employee of Small Business Administra-  
24           tion, appointed by the Administrator;

- 1 “(ii) an employee of the Institute for Computer  
2 Sciences and Technology of the Department of Com-  
3 merce, appointed by the Secretary of Commerce;
- 4 “(iii) an employee of the Department of Justice,  
5 appointed by the Attorney General;
- 6 “(iv) an employee of the Department of Defense,  
7 appointed by the Secretary of Defense;
- 8 “(v) one individual, appointed by the Administra-  
9 tor, who is representative of the interests of the provid-  
10 ers of computer hardware to small business concerns;
- 11 “(vi) one individual, appointed by the Administra-  
12 tor, who is representative of the interests of the provid-  
13 ers of computer software to small business concerns;
- 14 “(vii) one individual, appointed by the Administra-  
15 tor, who is representative of the interests of the provid-  
16 ers of insurance to small business concerns;
- 17 “(viii) one individual, appointed by the Adminis-  
18 trator, who is representative of the interests of the pro-  
19 viders of computer security equipment and services to  
20 small business concerns;
- 21 “(ix) one individual, appointed by the Administra-  
22 tor, who is representative of the interests of associ-  
23 ations of small business concerns, other than small  
24 business concerns engaging in any of the activities de-  
25 scribed in clauses (v) through (viii); and

1 “(x) such additional qualified individuals, appoint-  
2 ed by the Administrator, as the Administrator deter-  
3 mines to be appropriate.

4 “(C) It shall be the function of the task force—

5 “(i) to define the nature and scope of computer  
6 crimes committed against small business concerns;

7 “(ii) to ascertain the effectiveness of State legisla-  
8 tion, and available security equipment, in preventing  
9 computer crimes against small business concerns;

10 “(iii) in cooperation with the National Bureau of  
11 Standards, to develop guidelines to assist small busi-  
12 ness concerns in evaluating the security of computer  
13 systems; and

14 “(iv) to make recommendations to the Administra-  
15 tor with respect to the appropriate activities of the re-  
16 source center established under paragraph (4).

17 “(D) The Administrator shall designate one of the mem-  
18 bers of the task force as its chairperson. The task force shall  
19 meet not less than once during each six-month period follow-  
20 ing the effective date of this paragraph, at the call of its  
21 chairperson. A majority of the members of the task force  
22 shall constitute a quorum.

23 “(E) Each member of the task force shall serve without  
24 additional pay, allowances, or benefits by reason of such  
25 service. Each such member shall be reimbursed for actual

1 expenses, including travel expenses, determined by the Ad-  
2 ministrator to have been reasonably incurred in the course of  
3 performing the functions vested in the task force.

4 “(F) The Administrator shall provide the task force with  
5 such staff and office facilities as the Administrator, following  
6 consultation with the task force, considers necessary to  
7 permit the task force to carry out its functions under this  
8 paragraph.

9 “(G) The task force may secure directly from any Fed-  
10 eral agency information necessary to enable the task force to  
11 carry out its functions under this paragraph. Upon request of  
12 the chairperson of the task force, the head of such agency  
13 shall furnish such information to the task force.

14 “(H) Not later than eighteen months after the effective  
15 date of this paragraph, the task force shall submit to the  
16 President, the Administrator, and the Congress a detailed  
17 report setting forth the findings of the task force with respect  
18 to the matters described in subparagraph (C) and containing  
19 such recommendations as the task force determines to be ap-  
20 propriate.

21 “(I) The task force shall terminate not later than thirty  
22 days after the submission of its report under subparagraph  
23 (H).

24 “(J) For purposes of this paragraph and paragraph (4)—

25 “(i) the term ‘computer crime’ means—

1 “(I) any crime committed against a small  
2 business concern by means of the use of a com-  
3 puter; and

4 “(II) any crime involving the illegal use of,  
5 or tampering with, a computer owned or utilized  
6 by a small business concern; and

7 “(ii) the term ‘task force’ means the Small Busi-  
8 ness Computer Crime and Security Task Force estab-  
9 lished under subparagraph (A).”.

10 **COMPUTER CRIME AND SECURITY INFORMATION**

11 **SEC. 4.** Section 4(b) of the Small Business Act (15  
12 U.S.C. 633(b)), as amended in section 3 of this Act, is  
13 amended by adding at the end thereof the following new  
14 paragraph:

15 “(4)(A) The Administrator shall—

16 “(i) provide to small business concerns information  
17 regarding—

18 “(I) computer crimes committed against  
19 small business concerns; and

20 “(II) security for computers owned or uti-  
21 lized by small business concerns; and

22 “(ii) provide for periodic regional forums for small  
23 business concerns to improve the exchange of informa-  
24 tion regarding the matters described in clause (i).

1       “(B) Not later than sixty days after receipt of the report  
2 of the task force under paragraph (3)(H), the Administrator  
3 shall establish a part of the Small Business Administration a  
4 resource center that will carry out the functions of the Ad-  
5 ministrator under subparagraph (A)(i).”.

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