



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

October 29, 2015

S. 2126
Women’s Small Business Ownership Act of 2015
*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
on October 8, 2015*

SUMMARY

S. 2126 would amend the Small Business Administration’s Women’s Business Center Program, and authorize the appropriation of \$21.75 million for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 for that program. CBO estimates that implementing S. 2126 would cost \$97 million over the 2016-2020 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts.

Enacting S. 2126 would not affect direct spending or revenues, therefore pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 2126 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2026.

S. 2126 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary effect of S. 2126 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 370 (commerce and housing credit).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2016- 2020
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	22	22	22	22	22	109
Estimated Outlays	12	20	22	22	22	97

Note: Details may not sum to totals because of rounding.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 2126 will be enacted near the end of calendar year 2015.

S. 2126 would authorize the appropriation of \$21.75 million for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 to carry out the Women's Small Business Program. The SBA provides funds to nonprofit organizations that offer financial, management, and marketing assistance to small businesses owned or controlled by women. In 2015, the Congress provided \$15 million for this program.

The bill would make several changes to the program including broadening the types of organizations that would be eligible for grants under the program, and providing the SBA with authority to waive, for a limited time, requirements that funding recipients provide matching funds from nonfederal sources. S. 2126 also would direct the SBA to develop plans to establish an accreditation program for women's business centers and to provide training for service providers at the centers.

Based on historical spending patterns for this program and assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 2126 would cost \$97 million over the 2016-2020 period.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INCREASE IN LONG TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS

CBO estimates that enacting S. 2126 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2026.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 2126 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. State, local, and tribal entities would benefit from federal assistance for training and education programs. Any costs to those entities would be incurred voluntarily as a condition of receiving federal assistance.

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