

FACT SHEET for H.R. 6446

White House Conference on Small Business (WHCSB) Act of 2018

- [H.R. 6446](#), the "White House Conference on Small Business (WHCSB) Act of 2018," was introduced on July 19, 2018 by Reps. Rod Blum (R-IA), Stephanie Murphy (D-FL), and Al Lawson (D-FL) and has been referred to the House Committee on Small Business.
- H.R. 6446 reauthorizes, and amends, the White House Conference on Small Business Authorization Act from the early 1990s, which is [Public Law 101-409](#).
- As currently drafted, the H.R. 6446 requires the state conferences, regional conferences and the National Conference to occur no earlier than December 31, 2018 and no later than December 1, 2019.
- 1,904 delegates attended the most recent National Conference held in 1995. H.R. 6446 authorizes delegates to the National Conference to include one delegate appointed by each Governor or State, one delegate appointed by each Member of the Senate, one delegate appointed by each Member of the House, additional delegates appointed from the respective state conferences, and one hundred delegates appointed by the President.
- The Small Business Administration (SBA) would help facilitate the management and operations for all three levels of the WHCSB. H.R. 6446 authorizes the White House Conference of Small Business Commission, an eleven person Commission appointed by the President, to run the day-in and day-out logistics. The Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the SBA would serve as the Chairperson of this Commission.
- The Commission in 1995 was required to submit a final report, including the findings and recommendations of the delegates, as well as proposals for any legislative and/or executive branch action necessary to implement the recommendations, to the President and Congress no later than four months from the date the National Conference convened.
- The SBA was required to report to Congress annually for three years following the delivery of the final report on the status and implementation of the findings and recommendations.
- H.R. 6446 also recognizes and emphasizes the use of modern technology and communications to not only cut down costs, but to also increase the effectiveness in the process with a provision to *"establish an electronic communication system for use by delegates and alternates for communication before, during, and for at least 4 years after the National Conference to allow State delegations and issue area groups to collaboratively define the problems faced by small businesses, refine suggested solutions to those problems, prioritize and select final recommendations, and monitor later legislative or regulatory action on the recommendations."*
- This legislation would allow the Small Business Administration (SBA) to accept monetary and non-monetary resources from non-Federal sources to fully fund each of the three layers of the WHCSB: state conferences, regional conferences, and the National Conference to be held in Washington, DC.

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