



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

7/19/17

CONTACT

Kenny Cunningham
kc@prismgroup.global

Association of Women's Business Centers Praises House Passage of NDAA

WBC legislation (H.R. 1680) included in the NDAA has passed the House, awaits U.S. Senate

Washington, D.C. – The Association of Women's Business Centers (AWBC) is pleased to announce that the United States House of Representatives passed H.R. 2810, the FY2018 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which includes legislation re-authorizing the Women's Business Center (WBC) program. The bill authorizes additional funding, reduces burdensome reporting requirements, and ensures women entrepreneurs have access to the training and counseling that can help start and grow businesses.

"After a sustained effort by the AWBC, we are pleased that major legislation includes changes that will help Women's Business Centers expand their resources for women entrepreneurs across the country," said AWBC President and CEO Antonella Pianalto. "AWBC successfully worked with Chairman Steve Chabot (R-OH) and Ranking Member Nydia Velazquez (D-NY), as well as Representatives Steve Knight (R-CA) and Al Lawson (D-FL), to ensure H.R. 1680, which re-authorized the WBC programs as part of H.R. 2810, was included in the NDAA. We now look to the Senate, where we believe this legislation will be met with the same overwhelming, bipartisan support."

The Women's Business Center program is a public-private partnership with more than 25 years of success in providing training, counseling, mentoring, and access to capital for women entrepreneurs across the country. Its network reaches into communities – urban and rural alike – to assist America's job creators in launching and growing their own business.

####

About AWBC: *The AWBC (www.awbc.org) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1998 to support the national network of Women's Business Centers (WBCs) with programming and advocacy. Each year, our members leverage WBC grants to operate more than 150 locations throughout the United States. WBCs have more than 25 years of success in providing business training, counseling, mentoring, and access to capital to women entrepreneurs. The WBC program is a public-private partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration.*