

March Advocacy Update

2020 NAWBO Membership Survey

We need your help! To change policies and to continue to improve the business environment for women business owners, we need sound data, and your participation will make our survey valuable nationwide. Click [here](#) to participate and please share it in your chapter newsletters.

NAWBO's March Advocacy Call will be **Tuesday, March 17th at 12 PM ET/9AM PT**. Call-in details will be updated shortly.

NAWBO Advocacy Award

In honor of our 45th Anniversary and the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage, NAWBO is introducing an Advocacy Award for a NAWBO member who champions the voice of women entrepreneurs. Click [here](#) for more information. *nominations close March 15, 2020

March Advocacy Call Recap

Quick Hill and Administration Update

Senate: Chairman Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Ranking Member Ben Cardin (D-MD) of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, sent a [letter](#) to Administrator Jovita Carranza, requesting information on the agency's plan to ensure small businesses are prepared to respond to potential disruptions caused by the worldwide spread of the coronavirus. The Senate SB and Entrepreneurship Committee will hold a hearing titled, "The Coronavirus and America's Small Business Supply Chain" at 10:00 AM ET on March 12, 2020. To watch live or view archive, click [here](#).

House: Chairwoman Nydia Velázquez (D-NY) of the House Small Business Committee released a [statement](#) on the passing of [H.R. 6074](#), the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, which included a provision based on legislation recently introduced by Reps. Nydia M. Velázquez (D-NY), Judy Chu (D-CA) and Grace Meng (D-NY) that would enable the Small Business Administration to make an estimated \$7 billion in low-cost loans to affected small businesses. The House SBC will hold a hearing titled, "The Impact of Coronavirus on America's Small Businesses" on Tuesday, March 10th at 11:30 AM ET. For a link to watch it live or to see archive, click [here](#).

Administration: On Friday, March 6th, President Trump signed the [\\$8.3 billion supplemental spending bill](#) to combat the spread of the Coronavirus. This include The United Kingdom published its negotiating [objectives](#) for a U.S. trade deal, clearing the way for talks to formally start this month. In other news, the Small Business Administration (SBA) released a [notice of changes and request for comments](#) on the Community Advantage program, a program to increase SBA-guaranteed loans to small businesses in underserved areas. The changes will remain in effect until September 30th, 2022. The request for comment deadline on the changes is set for April 1st, 2020. Just one more item of interest, a new WBC is headed to West Virginia!

New Legislation Update

Endorsed by NAWBO

On Thursday, March 5th, U.S. Senators Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Tim Scott (R-SC), Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Susan Collins (R-ME) introduced [S.3406](#), the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise Act of 2020, a bill to reauthorize a federal interagency committee that helps coordinate federal resources to encourage the formation, growth and success of women-owned businesses. NAWBO endorsed this legislation.

On Tuesday, March 10th, NAWBO [announced](#) its support of Rep. Andy Kim (D- NJ) and Rep. Tim Burchett (R- TN) Bipartisan "Microloan, Major Impact" Package. It includes [H.R.6078](#) and [H.R.6079](#). These bills strive to increase the size of, and ease of obtaining, Microloans through the Small Business Administration (SBA). The bills are being marked up in the House Small Business Committee on Wednesday, March 11 at 11:30 AM ET. To watch live or view archive, click [here](#).

Addressing the Workforce

Senate

- Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM) introduced [S.3376](#) a bill to amend title XX of the Social Security Act to provide low-income individuals with opportunities to enter and follow a career pathway in the health professions, to extend and expand demonstration projects, and for other purposes.
- Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA) introduced [S.Res.515](#) a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Career and Technical Education Month as well as [S.3273](#) a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a community college and career training grant program.
- Representative James Langevin (D-RI-2) introduced [H.R.6032](#) a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to designate certain consortia as Community and Technical College Centers of Excellence in Transportation Workforce Training, and for other purposes.
- Senator Masto Cortez (D-NV) introduced [S.3245](#) a bill to advance STEM education, provide for improved worker training, retention, and advancement, and for other purposes.
- Senator John Thune (R-SD) introduced [S.3355](#) a bill to address the workforce needs of the telecommunications industry.

House

Representative Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ-1) introduced [H.R.5835](#) a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt certain employees engaged in outdoor recreational outfitting or guiding services from minimum wage and maximum hours requirements.

Medical Leave

Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Rep. Janice Schakowsky (D-IL) introduced [S.3358](#) and [H.R.5991](#), identical bills that extend protections to part-time workers in the areas of family and medical leave and pension plans, and to ensure equitable treatment in the workplace.

Request for Input: [S. 1978 Corporate Transparency Act](#)

Sen. Rubio's Small Business Committee Staff is looking for input on Corporate Transparency Act

- This bill requires certain new and existing small corporations and limited liability companies to disclose information about their beneficial owners.
- If they meet the standards, they must file beneficial ownership information with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN).
- The bill imposes a civil penalty and authorizes criminal penalties—a fine, a prison term for up to three years, or both—for providing false or fraudulent beneficial ownership information or for willfully failing to provide complete or updated beneficial ownership information.

Save-the-Dates!

Save-the-Date April Advocacy Call

The April call will take place Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 12PM ET/9AM PT.

This call will also provide an update on activity in Washington, D.C. and NAWBO supported legislation. Updated call-in information will be placed here when it is available.

ICYMI: 2020 NAWBO Advocacy Agenda

NAWBO National's [2020 Advocacy Agenda](#) is here!

How can your chapter get involved? Use the [toolkit](#). Overwhelmed by all the pieces? Check out this [webinar](#) and [PowerPoint](#) that walks you through the process.

NAWBO's Advocacy Day will be June 1-2, 2020!

June 1 Afternoon Hill Training

You'll learn how to talk with legislations, be a credible witness, and testifying before Congress. There will also be a reception that evening.

June 2

We'll have morning speakers at the hotel with late morning breakouts and briefings plus lunch on Capitol Hill. You'll have the afternoon to meet with elected officials. *When you sign up, PLEASE fill out if you would like to have a meeting with your elected official.* We will have to put in these requests in advance.

Want to hear more about NAWBO Advocacy efforts or get involved? Contact Elle Patout via email at epatout@nawbo.org.