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H7: Hearing before the Select Committee on Small Business of the U.S. Senate

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SMALL BUSINESS AND INNOVATION

HEARING
BEFORE THE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
OF THE
UNITED STATES SENATE
NINETY-SIXTH CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION
ON
SMALL BUSINESS AND INNOVATION

AUGUST 2, 1979

Printed for the use of the Select Committee on Small Business

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1979
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SMALL BUSINESS AND INNOVATION

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
NINETY-SIXTH CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION

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"... there is a lot that can be done to channel research and development funds to the small business entities of America. We've done an analysis that shows the Government gets a much better return on its investment with a small business with eagerness and growth as a major commitment, a tiny bureaucracy where the superb leadership is very close to the actual working conditions, than we do with an equal amount of research and development money put into very large corporations which might consider research and development projects as one of the tiny portions of its total commitment."

- President Jimmy Carter

"Anything that won't sell, I don't want to invent. Its sale is proof of utility, and utility is success."

- Thomas Alva Edison

Prepared by:
Office of the Chief Counsel for Advocacy
U.S. Small Business Administration
P.L. 94-305 charges the Chief Counsel for Advocacy with the responsibilities to: examine the role of small business in the American economy and the contribution which small business can make in stimulating innovation (Section 202(1)); develop proposals for changes in policies and activities of any agency of the Federal Government which will better fulfill the purposes of the Small Business Act and communicate such proposals to the appropriate Federal agencies (Sec. 203(3)); and, recommend specific measures for creating an environment in which all businesses will have an opportunity to compete effectively and expand to their full potential, and to ascertain the common reasons, if any, for small business successes and failures (Sec. 202(9)).

The Chief Counsel is authorized to hold hearings with the approval of the SBA Administrator. From time to time, he may prepare and publish such reports as he deems appropriate to carry out the functions of his office.

Pursuant to this authority, and with the approval of the Administrator, Honorable A. Vernon Weaver, hearings were held on January 4th and 5th and February 22nd and 23rd of this year in Washington, D.C., on the subject of Innovation and Small Business. This report and the draft copy of the "Small Business Innovation Act" are the products of those hearings.