

Comm. on Small Business, 94th Cong., 2d Sess. 5 (1976).¹³

5. Commenting on the obstacles facing minority contractors who must obtain commercial financing for their projects, Representative Corman stated:

We must accept the fact that a man's color has been a barrier to his access to credit in this country during all of our history and, therefore, if you have to take different steps for them [minorities] from other kinds of people, you are merely living in a real world. * * * I think that we have to accept the fact there are fewer black entrepreneurs in this country than there should be because of our historic problems of racism in this country.

Government Minority Small Business Programs: Hearing Before the Subcomm. on Minority Business Enterprise of the House Select Comm. on Small Business (Vol. 1) 2 (1971).

6. In a similar vein, Representative Hamilton has observed that “[m]any lending institutions are simply reluctant—often for the wrong reasons—to extend a line of credit to a minority businessman. Others have restricted lending policies that demand a credit

¹³ Minority contractors themselves appear to share Senator Kennedy's perception of the barriers to entry that they must surmount in the construction industry. See Civil Rights Commission Report, *supra*, note 21, at 21-22; *General Review of Major SBA Programs and Activities: Hearings Before the Subcomm. on Minority Enterprise and General Oversight of the House Comm. on Small Business*, 95th Cong., 2d Sess. 5, 15, 56 (1978).

rating before credit can be made available." 124
Cong. Rec. E985 (daily ed. Mar. 2, 1978).

7. Senator Tower has also acknowledged the need for special financing assistance to minority businesses. In debate on the Small Business Investment Act Amendments of 1972, Senator Tower explained (118 Cong. Rec. 35378 (1972)):

Our goal is * * * to give the capital push needed to get business formations and successes going in minority communities, so that they can have the chance to become self-sufficient and to develop the capital within the minority communities to develop their own financing resources in the future.