

**Author Full Name :** Cory Seidel**Received Date :** 11/16/2020 05:15 PM**Comments Received :**

I have been a client of the SBDC since 2013. I have serious concerns about the changes to form 641 that are being proposed. The changes imply that the SBA will have access to information on the clients of the SBDC. The current law forbids SBDC advisors and staff from sharing client information with anyone, as it should be. The wording changes being proposed seem to make this information available to the SBA, which I feel is wrong. The SBA provides funding for the SBDC and the SBDC provides aggregated information on its clients to the SBA, which is fine. But the clients of the SBDC should choose what information, if any, is shared outside of the SBDC, and the SBA should not have access to any of the client's information. I feel that it would be wrong for the SBA to change their forms in a way that opens the door for them to access information that is currently forbidden from them.

In addition, another change to the form makes it sound like clients must agree to participate in surveys and receive emails from the SBA. The specific wording is, "I request business counseling service from an SBA Resource Partner. I agree to cooperate should I be selected to participate in surveys designed to evaluate SBA Resource Partner services. I permit SBA or its agent the use of my name and address for SBA surveys and information mailings regarding SBA products and services (Yes No)." This makes it appear that business owners would need to agree to receive SBDC surveys and emails regarding SBA products and services in order to receive assistance. To me, this goes against what the SBDC is all about, which is providing a free service to small business owners who need the assistance. As a business owner, I do not want extra surveys or emails to have to deal with. My time is too valuable to be wasted with unnecessary surveys and "junk" email messages.

In conclusion, I am against the changes being proposed to form 640. Specifically, the wording, "I understand that any information disclosed will be held in strictest confidence protected to the extent permitted by law. (SBA or its agents will not provide your personal information to commercial entities.) I authorize SBA or its agents to furnish relevant information to the assigned management counselor(s)." and "I request business counseling service from an SBA Resource Partner. I agree to cooperate should I be selected to participate in surveys designed to evaluate SBA Resource Partner services. I permit SBA or its agent the use of my name and address for SBA surveys and information mailings regarding SBA products and services (Yes No)."