

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7534

To amend the Small Business Act to establish a goal for participation by small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans in procurement contracts, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 12, 2026

Mr. FINE (for himself, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. DONALDS, and Mr. HUNT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to establish a goal for participation by small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans in procurement contracts, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Contract Our Veterans
5 Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. AGENCY CONTRACTING GOALS FOR SMALL BUSI-**
2 **NESS CONCERNS OWNED AND CONTROLLED**
3 **BY VETERANS.**

4 The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is
5 amended by inserting after section 36A the following new
6 section:

7 **“SEC. 36B. SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS OWNED AND CON-**
8 **TROLLED BY VETERANS.**

9 “(a) **CONTRACTING OFFICER DEFINED.**—In this sec-
10 tion, the term ‘contracting officer’ has the meaning given
11 such term in section 2101 of title 41, United States Code.

12 “(b) **SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS FOR CONTRACTS**
13 **ABOVE SIMPLIFIED ACQUISITION THRESHOLD.**—A con-
14 tracting officer may award a contract to a small business
15 concern owned and controlled by veterans using proce-
16 dures other than competitive procedures if—

17 “(1) such concern is determined to be a respon-
18 sible source with respect to performance of such con-
19 tract;

20 “(2) the anticipated award price of the contract
21 (including options) will not exceed the amounts spec-
22 ified in section 36(c)(2) of the Small Business Act
23 (15 U.S.C. 657f(c)(2)); and

24 “(3) the contracting officer determines the con-
25 tract award can be made at a fair and reasonable
26 price that offers best value to the United States.

1 “(c) RESTRICTED COMPETITION.—A contracting of-
2 ficer shall award contracts on the basis of competition re-
3 stricted to small business concerns owned and controlled
4 by veterans if the contracting officer has a reasonable ex-
5 pectation that two or more small business concerns owned
6 and controlled by veterans will submit offers and that the
7 award can be made at a fair and reasonable price that
8 offers best value to the United States.

9 “(d) ELIGIBILITY OF SMALL BUSINESS CON-
10 CERNS.—A small business concern may be awarded a con-
11 tract under this section only if the small business concern
12 and the veteran owner of the small business concern are
13 listed in the database described in section 36(f)(1) of the
14 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657f(f)(1)).”

15 **SEC. 3. GOVERNMENTWIDE GOALS AND REPORTING RE-**
16 **QUIREMENTS FOR SMALL BUSINESS CON-**
17 **CERNS OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY VET-**
18 **ERANS.**

19 (a) GOVERNMENTWIDE GOALS.—Section 15(g) of the
20 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(g)) is amended—

21 (1) by striking “and small business concerns
22 owned and controlled by women” and inserting “,
23 small business concerns owned and controlled by
24 women, and small business concerns owned and con-
25 trolled by veterans” each place it appears;

1 (2) in paragraph (1)(A), by adding at the end
2 the following new clause:

3 “(vi) The Governmentwide goal for
4 participation by small business concerns
5 owned and controlled by veterans shall be
6 established at not less than 5 percent of
7 the total value of all prime contract and
8 subcontract awards for each fiscal year.”;
9 and

10 (3) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “and by
11 small business concerns owned and controlled by
12 women” and inserting “by small business concerns
13 owned and controlled by women, and by small busi-
14 ness concerns owned and controlled by veterans,”.

15 (b) REPORTING ON GOALS.—Section 15(h)(2) of the
16 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(h)(2)) is amended—

17 (1) in subparagraph (E)—

18 (A) in clauses (i)(VI), (ii)(VII), (iii)(VIII),
19 and (iv)(VIII), by inserting “small business
20 concerns owned and controlled by veterans”
21 after “small business concerns owned and con-
22 trolled by women,”;

23 (B) in clause (vii)(VI), by striking “and”
24 at the end;

1 (C) in clause (viii)(X), by inserting “small
2 business concerns owned and controlled by vet-
3 erans” after “small business concerns owned
4 and controlled by socially and economically dis-
5 advantaged individuals,”; and

6 (D) by adding at the end the following new
7 clause:

8 “(ix) small business concerns owned
9 and controlled by veterans—

10 “(I) in the aggregate;

11 “(II) through sole source con-
12 tracts;

13 “(III) through competitions re-
14 stricted to small business concerns;

15 “(IV) through competitions re-
16 stricted to small business concerns
17 owned and controlled by veterans;

18 “(V) through unrestricted com-
19 petition;

20 “(VI) that were purchased by an-
21 other entity after the initial contract
22 was awarded and as a result of the
23 purchase, would no longer be deemed
24 to be small business concerns owned

1 and controlled by veterans for pur-
2 poses of the initial contract; and

3 “(VII) that were awarded using a
4 procurement method that restricted
5 competition to small business concerns
6 owned and controlled by service-dis-
7 abled veterans, qualified HUBZone
8 small business concerns, small busi-
9 ness concerns owned and controlled by
10 socially and economically disadvan-
11 taged individuals, small business con-
12 cerns owned and controlled by women,
13 or a subset of any such concerns;
14 and”;

15 (2) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and small
16 business concerns owned and controlled by women”
17 and inserting “, small business concerns owned and
18 controlled by women, and small business concerns
19 owned and controlled by veterans”.

20 **SEC. 4. PARTICIPATION IN FEDERAL PROCUREMENT BY**
21 **SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS OWNED AND**
22 **CONTROLLED BY VETERANS.**

23 (a) BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY SPECIALISTS.—Section
24 4(g)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
25 633(g)(1))—

1 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
2 by striking “and 36” and inserting “36, and 36B”;

3 (2) in subparagraph (A)(v), by striking “36,
4 and” and inserting “36, 36B, and”; and

5 (3) in subparagraph (D), by striking “36, or”
6 and inserting “36, 36B, or”.

7 (b) COMMERCIAL MARKET REPRESENTATIVE.—Sec-
8 tion 4(h)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
9 633(g)(1)) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by
10 striking “and 36” and inserting “36, and 36B”.

11 (c) CONSIDERATION OF OFFERS.—Section
12 8(a)(17)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
13 637(a)(17)(A)) is amended by striking “or section 36”
14 and inserting “section 36, or section 36B”.

15 (d) BEST IN CLASS ADDENDUM.—Section
16 15(h)(4)(A)(ii) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
17 644(h)(4)(A)(ii)) is amended—

18 (1) in subclause (III), by striking “and” at the
19 end;

20 (2) in subclause (IV), by striking the period at
21 the end and inserting “; and”; and

22 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
23 clause:

24 “(V) small business concerns
25 owned and controlled by veterans.”.

1 (e) OFFICES OF SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSI-
2 NESS UTILIZATION.—Section 15(k) of the Small Business
3 Act (15 U.S.C. 644(k)) is amended—

4 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
5 striking “or 44” and inserting “36B, or 44”;

6 (2) by striking “and 44” and inserting “36B,
7 and 44” each place it appears; and

8 (3) by striking “or 36” and inserting “36, or
9 36B” each place it appears.

10 (f) SCORECARD PROGRAM.—Section 15(y) of the
11 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(y)) is amended—

12 (1) by striking “and small business concerns
13 owned and controlled by women” and inserting “,
14 small business concerns owned and controlled by
15 women, and small business concerns owned and con-
16 trolled by veterans” each place it appears; and

17 (2) in paragraph (4), by adding at the end the
18 following new subparagraph:

19 “(E) The number (expressed as a percent-
20 age) and total dollar amount of awards made to
21 small business concerns owned and controlled
22 by veterans through sole source contracts and
23 competitions restricted to small business con-
24 cerns owned and controlled by veterans under
25 section 36B.”.

1 (g) MENTOR-PROTEGE REPORTING.—Section
2 45(c)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
3 657r(c)(1)(B)) is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating clauses (iii) through (v) as
5 clauses (iv) through (vi), respectively; and

6 (2) by inserting after clause (ii) the following
7 new clause:

8 “(iii) small business concerns owned
9 and controlled by veterans;”.

10 (h) LIMITATIONS ON SUBCONTRACTING.—Section 46
11 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657s) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “or 36” and
13 inserting “36, or 36B”; and

14 (2) in subsection (e)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1)—

16 (i) in subparagraph (D), by striking
17 “or” at the end;

18 (ii) in subparagraph (E), by striking
19 the period at the end and inserting “; or”;
20 and

21 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
22 lowing new subparagraph:

23 “(F) with respect to a contract awarded
24 under section 36B, is a small business concern
25 owned and controlled by veterans.”; and

- 1 (B) in paragraph (2)—
- 2 (i) in subparagraph (E), by striking
- 3 “or” at the end;
- 4 (ii) in subparagraph (F), by striking
- 5 the period at the end and inserting “; or”;
- 6 and
- 7 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
- 8 lowing new subparagraph:
- 9 “(G) if a subcontractor for a small busi-
- 10 ness concern owned and controlled by veterans,
- 11 is such a concern.”.

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