

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6347

To require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a pilot procurement program for military spouses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 23, 2021

Ms. STRICKLAND (for herself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mr. CARSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a pilot procurement program for military spouses, 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 “Military Spouse Entre-
5 preneurs Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROCUREMENT PROGRAM FOR MILITARY**
7 **SPOUSES.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator of the
9 Small Business Administration shall carry out a pilot pro-

1 gram to establish a procurement program for military
2 spouses.

3 (b) AUTHORITY TO RESTRICT COMPETITION.—In ac-
4 cordance with this subsection, a contracting officer may
5 restrict competition for any contract for the procurement
6 of goods or services by the Federal Government to small
7 business concerns owned and controlled by military
8 spouses, if—

9 (1) each of the concerns is not less than 51 per-
10 cent owned by one or more military spouses;

11 (2) the contracting officer has a reasonable ex-
12 pectation that two or more small business concerns
13 owned and controlled by military spouses will submit
14 offers for the contract;

15 (3) in the estimation of the contracting officer,
16 the contract award can be made at a fair and rea-
17 sonable price; and

18 (4) each of the concerns is certified by the Ad-
19 ministrator or a third party certifying entity as a
20 small business concern owned and controlled by mili-
21 tary spouses.

22 (c) AUTHORITY FOR SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS.—A
23 contracting officer may award a sole source contract under
24 this subsection to any small business concern owned and

1 controlled by military spouses described in subsection (b)
2 if—

3 (1) such concern is determined to be a respon-
4 sible contractor with respect to performance of the
5 contract opportunity and the contracting officer does
6 not have a reasonable expectation that 2 or more
7 small business concerns owned and controlled by
8 military spouses will submit offers for the contract;
9 and

10 (2) in the estimation of the contracting officer,
11 the contract award can be made at a fair and rea-
12 sonable price.

13 (d) GOVERNMENTWIDE GOAL.—The Administrator
14 shall establish a Governmentwide goal for participation by
15 small business concerns owned and controlled by military
16 spouses at not less than 5 percent of the total value of
17 all prime contract and subcontract awards for each year
18 of the pilot program.

19 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the termi-
20 nation date described in subsection (f), the Administrator
21 shall submit to Congress a report on the pilot program
22 established under this section, including—

23 (1) the number of small business concerns
24 owned and controlled by military spouses that par-
25 ticipated in the pilot program;

1 (2) data on the effectiveness of the pilot pro-
2 gram in encouraging contracting with small business
3 concerns owned and controlled by military spouses;

4 (3) information on whether the goal described
5 in subsection (e) was met;

6 (4) data on oversight of the pilot program; and

7 (5) recommendations for—

8 (A) any improvements to the pilot pro-
9 gram; and

10 (B) whether to make the pilot program
11 permanent.

12 (f) TERMINATION.—The pilot program established
13 under this section shall terminate not later than 5 years
14 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

15 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
17 trator” means the Administrator of the Small Busi-
18 ness Administration.

19 (2) CONTRACTING OFFICER.—The term “con-
20 tracting officer” has the meaning given such term in
21 section 27(f)(5) of the Office of Federal Procure-
22 ment Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 423(f)(5)).

23 (3) MILITARY SPOUSE.—The term “military
24 spouse” means a current or former spouse of—

25 (A) a veteran; or

1 (B) a member of the Armed Forces (as
2 those terms are defined in section 101 of title
3 10, United States Code).

4 (4) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN OWNED AND
5 CONTROLLED BY MILITARY SPOUSES.—The term
6 “small business concern owned and controlled by
7 military spouses” means a small business concern—

8 (A)(i) not less than 51 percent of which is
9 owned by one or more military spouses or, in
10 the case of any publicly owned business, not
11 less than 51 percent of the stock of which is
12 owned by one or more military spouses; and

13 (ii) the management and daily business op-
14 erations of which are controlled by one or more
15 military spouses; or

16 (B) that is 50 percent owned by a veteran
17 and 50 percent owned by a military spouse of
18 such veteran.

19 (5) VETERAN.—The term “veteran” has the
20 meaning given in section 101 of title 38, United
21 States Code.

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