



March 3, 2025

The Honorable Roger Williams  
Chair  
House Committee on Small Business  
2361 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nydia Velázquez  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Small Business  
2069 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Williams and Ranking Member Velázquez,

The Women's Procurement Circle (WPC) expresses our strong support for the *WOSB Accountability Act*. This common-sense legislation will strengthen the Women-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Federal Contracting Program by requiring the Small Business Administration (SBA) to count only contract awards to certified WOSBs in the SBA Small Business Procurement Scorecard, removing the incentive to self-certify as a WOSB. The bill brings additional transparency and accountability to the program, which is key as inefficiencies in certification and program implementation have prevented it from reaching its full potential. Our membership of successful WOSB federal contractors believes this legislation will strengthen the WOSB program, giving contracting officers and government buyers an incentive to use the WOSB program as Congress intended.

The government established a 5% goal for WOSB participation in federal contracts in 1994 as part of the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act. While the SBA's annual scorecard reports the government nearly reaches this goal year after year, this is not due to billions of dollars going through the WOSB program. Rather, these numbers reflect contract awards to any company that claims it is woman-owned by self-certifying through the government's database of federal contractors, the System for Award Management (SAM).

The SBA's Small Business Data HUB tells a different story with respect to contract awards to women-owned companies. In FY2023, the SBA's Governmentwide Scorecard for 2023 reported that \$30.9 billion (4.91%) was directed to WOSBs, while the SBA's Small Business Dashboard revealed that only \$1.833 billion was allocated to WOSBs (including EDWOSBs) under the set-aside type.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Analysis of <https://datahub.certify.sba.gov> by The Pulse™



According to the Office of Advocacy, women own more than 12 million businesses and employ over 10.7 million workers. These businesses are a driving force in the American economy, and an important component of the U.S. small business industrial base. Despite their impact, WOSBs remain underrepresented in federal contracting, limiting their ability to compete and grow.

Although SBA implemented the WOSB Federal Contract program in 2011, it has yet to be widely utilized by the federal government's contracting workforce. It is important to note that contract awards through the program are limited to industry codes (NAICS) that show underrepresentation in awards to women-owned companies – maintaining the integrity of the program. Inefficiencies in certification and program implementation have prevented this program from reaching its full potential. We urge the Committee to pass this bill swiftly and stand ready to support this effort in any way possible. Supporting WOSBs is not a partisan issue, it is an investment in America's small business economy. Federal contracts strengthen the entire industrial base, promote competition, and drive innovation – benefiting both businesses and taxpayers alike.

Thank you for your leadership in championing policies that promote small business growth, fairness in federal contracting for all, and a more competitive economy.

Sincerely,

Women's Procurement Circle