

June 9, 2025

The Honorable Joni Ernst Chair, Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship United States Senate 260 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roger Williams Chair, Committee on Small Business United States House of Representatives 2336 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Edward J. Markey
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship
United States Senate
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nydia Velazquez
Ranking Member, Committee on Small Business
United States House of Representatives
260 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairs Ernst and Williams and Ranking Members Markey and Velazquez,

On behalf of the National Veteran Small Business Coalition (NVSBC) and over 1.6 million Veteran Owned Small Businesses (VOSB) including 30,000 Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB), we respectfully urge your support for H.R. 2804, "Protecting Small Business Competitions Act for 2025. Codifying the "Rule of Two" will enhance competition for all small business opportunities and strengthen our industrial base.

While the "Rule of Two" has been in place for decades and reaffirmed by federal courts, it has not been codified in the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) to allow small businesses to compete for and win a fair proportion of government contracts. H.R. 2804 will,

- Ensure fair competition for small businesses by eliminating ambiguity in procurement practices and opportunities;
- Broaden the industrial base by retaining and encouraging small business talent, innovations and solutions; and
- Promote economic growth that contributes to both our national and local economies.

Over the past decade, the number of small businesses entering the federal marketplace has dropped by nearly 60 percent. Codifying the "Rule of Two" is critical to reversing the decline and ensuring America's economic resilience and competitiveness.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration of this letter of support. We urge Congress to support the passage of H.R. 2804. NVSBC is grateful for your support of Veteran small business owners and the small business community at large. For additional information, my email is <a href="mailto:Scott.Jensen@nvsbc.org">Scott.Jensen@nvsbc.org</a> or you may call 703-889-5742.

Sincerely,

Scott Jensen
Executive Director