

Rebecca Conteras

Founder & CEO
AvantGarde LLC
3011 Dawn Drive
Suite 101
Georgetown, TX 78628
www.avantgarde4usa.com

July 18, 2025

The Honorable Nick LaLota
Chairman, Subcommittee on Contracting and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Gil Cisneros
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Contracting and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman LaLota and Ranking Member Cisneros:

As the Founder and CEO of AvantGarde LLC – a woman-owned small business providing mission-driven consulting in human capital, IT, strategy, and business operations to federal agencies – I write in strong support of the Protecting Small Business Competitions Act of 2025 (H.R. 2804) and the effort to codify the “Rule of Two” in the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR).

At AvantGarde, we pride ourselves on supporting federal missions with agility, innovation, and a commitment to operational excellence. The “Rule of Two” has long served as a critical mechanism for ensuring small businesses like mine have a fair opportunity to compete. Its codification is not just procedural – it’s essential to preserving the integrity and accessibility of the federal procurement process.

Without a statutory foundation, this long-standing safeguard is vulnerable, risking the erosion of decades of progress made in empowering small businesses. For companies like mine, which has grown to 100 employees yet remains a **small business under all relevant NAICS codes**, competing against large corporations with expansive proposal teams and infrastructure is simply not feasible (*or fair*) for any small business like mine. The Rule of Two levels the playing field, allowing us to continue contributing meaningfully to government missions, job creation, and economic mobility in the communities and American families we serve.

Codifying this rule will ensure federal agencies continue to consider small business participation before defaulting to large-scale contracts or bundling requirements beyond our reach. It reinforces Congress’s long-standing commitment to fostering entrepreneurship and innovation among America’s small business community.

I thank you for your leadership and **urge you to advance H.R. 2804**. Your support will help ensure small businesses remain competitive, resilient, and able to grow. We are the backbone of the American economy: eager to serve, ready to deliver, and committed to driving impact across the country.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Contreras
Founder & CEO
AvantGarde LLC