



July 30, 2014

The Honorable Scott Peters  
United States House of Representatives  
2410 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Peters:

On behalf of the National Small Business Association (NSBA), I am pleased to support the *Open Government Technology Work to More Businesses Act (H.R.5154)*, which would increase efficiency and streamline the registration process for federal contracts at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). Representing more than 65,000 small-business owners across the nation, NSBA is the nation's oldest nonpartisan small business advocacy organization and greatly appreciates your leadership on such an important issue for the business community.

Small business contracting has been identified by NSBA as one of the association's top priorities for the 113th Congress. Small businesses infuse the federal procurement system with much-needed competition, expertise and innovation while providing high-quality goods and services to federal agencies; recognition reflected in the objectives of the *Small Business Reauthorization Act of 1997*, which called for 23 percent of prime federal contracts to be awarded to small firms.

According to a report released on June 5, by the SBA Office of Advocacy, entitled, "Evaluation of the Small Business Procurement Goals Established in Section 15(g) of the Small Business Act," over 80 percent of all federal procurement is concentrated in four main industries: manufacturing; professional, scientific and technical services; administrative and support, waste management and remediation services; and construction. The small business procurement rate is below 23 percent in all the top industries except one, construction, which awards the most with 44.8 percent of federal contracts going to small business. The report further explains that increasing small business procurement in the other top sectors, especially manufacturing where the small business share is not quite 12 percent, is essential to improving the overall small business procurement rate.

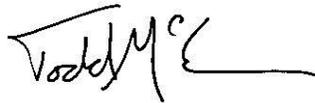
Through simplification, H.R. 5154 would encourage more small businesses to bid on contracts, and in turn, aid the government in getting closer to reaching their small business contracting

goals in these other industries. NSBA is pleased with the bill's directive for the SBA to present a consolidated, more streamlined registration process into a single, unified electronic system on SBA's website so that small-business owners can have a "one stop shop" when registering for federal contracts.

NSBA believes that small businesses deserve their fair share of federal contracting dollars and supports reasonable reforms and government policies that promote and facilitate small business participation in the federal marketplace.

Thus, NSBA is pleased to support the *Open Government Technology Work to More Businesses Act*. Thank you for your continued leadership on this critical issue and I look forward to working with you to bring this legislation to the House floor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd McCracken". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "M" and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Todd McCracken  
President & CEO