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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Ms. STRICKLAND introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**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”.

1 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROCUREMENT PROGRAM FOR MILITARY**  
2 **SPOUSES.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator of the  
4 Small Business Administration shall carry out a pilot pro-  
5 gram to establish a procurement program for military  
6 spouses.

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

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

15 (2) the contracting officer has a reasonable ex-  
16 pectation that two or more small business concerns  
17 owned and controlled by military spouses will submit  
18 offers for the contract;

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

22 (4) each of the concerns is certified by the Ad-  
23 ministrator or a third party certifying entity as a  
24 small business concern owned and controlled by mili-  
25 tary spouses.

1       (c) AUTHORITY FOR SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS.—A  
2     contracting officer may award a sole source contract under  
3     this subsection to any small business concern owned and  
4     controlled by military spouses described in subsection (b)  
5     if—

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

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

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

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

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

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

7           (3) information on whether the goal described  
8           in subsection (e) was met;

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

10          (5) recommendations for—

11                (A) any improvements to the pilot pro-  
12                gram; and

13                (B) whether to make the pilot program  
14                permanent.

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

18          (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19                (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-  
20                trator” means the Administrator of the Small Busi-  
21                ness Administration.

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

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

3                   (A) a veteran; or

4                   (B) a member of the Armed Forces (as  
5 those terms are defined in section 101 of title  
6 10, United States Code).

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

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

16                   (ii) the management and daily business op-  
17 erations of which are controlled by one or more  
18 military spouses; or

19                   (B) that is 50 percent owned by a veteran  
20 and 50 percent owned by a military spouse of  
21 such veteran.

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