

Calendar No. 409

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7987

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2024

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and
Entrepreneurship

MAY 23, 2024

Reported by Mrs. SHAHEEN, without amendment

AN ACT

To require plain language and the inclusion of key words
in covered notices that are clear, concise, and accessible
to small business concerns, 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 “Plain Language in
5 Contracting Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY IN COVERED NOTICES**
2 **FOR SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Each covered notice shall be writ-
4 ten—

5 (1) in a manner that is clear, concise, and ac-
6 cessible to a small business concern; and

7 (2) in a manner consistent, to the extent prac-
8 ticable, with the Federal plain language guidelines
9 established pursuant to the Plain Writing Act of
10 2010 (5 U.S.C. 301 note).

11 (b) INCLUSION OF KEY WORDS IN COVERED NO-
12 TICES.—Each covered notice shall, to the maximum extent
13 practicable, include key words in the description of the
14 covered notice such that a small business concern seeking
15 contract opportunities using the single governmentwide
16 point of entry described under section 1708 of title 41,
17 United States Code, can easily identify and understand
18 such covered notice.

19 (c) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 90 days after the
20 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of
21 the Small Business Administration shall issue rules to
22 carry out this section.

23 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 (1) COVERED NOTICE.—The term “covered no-
25 tice” means a notice pertaining to small business
26 concerns published by a Federal agency on the sin-

1 gle Government-wide point of entry described under
2 section 1708 of title 41, United States Code.

3 (2) SMALL BUSINESS ACT DEFINITIONS.—The
4 terms “Federal agency” and “small business con-
5 cern” have the meanings given those terms, respec-
6 tively, in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15
7 U.S.C. 632).

8 **SEC. 3. COMPLIANCE WITH CUTGO.**

9 No additional amounts are authorized to be appro-
10 priated to carry out this Act or the amendments made
11 by this Act.

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