

HR 561

Protecting Business Opportunities for Veterans Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jan 15, 2019

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 116-183.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 116-183. (Oct 30, 2020)

Law: 116-183 (Enacted Oct 30, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/561>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Bergman, Jack [R-MI-1]

Party: Republican • **State:** MI • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (20 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Dunn, Neal P. [R-FL-2]	R · FL		Jan 15, 2019
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Jan 15, 2019
Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Jun 11, 2019
Rep. Balderson, Troy [R-OH-12]	R · OH		Jul 25, 2019
Rep. Bost, Mike [R-IL-12]	R · IL		Jul 25, 2019
Rep. Chabot, Steve [R-OH-1]	R · OH		Jul 25, 2019
Rep. Davis, Rodney [R-IL-13]	R · IL		Jul 25, 2019
Rep. Armstrong, Kelly [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Jul 30, 2019
Rep. Axne, Cynthia [D-IA-3]	D · IA		Jul 30, 2019
Rep. Banks, Jim [R-IN-3]	R · IN		Jul 30, 2019
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Jul 30, 2019
Rep. Johnson, Bill [R-OH-6]	R · OH		Jul 30, 2019
Rep. Steube, W. Gregory [R-FL-17]	R · FL		Jul 30, 2019
Rep. Zeldin, Lee M. [R-NY-1]	R · NY		Aug 9, 2019
Rep. McMorris Rodgers, Cathy [R-WA-5]	R · WA		Sep 3, 2019
Rep. Johnson, Mike [R-LA-4]	R · LA		Sep 16, 2019
Rep. Moolenaar, John R. [R-MI-4]	R · MI		Sep 16, 2019
Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		Nov 5, 2019
Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]	D · NJ		Dec 13, 2019
Rep. Malinowski, Tom [D-NJ-7]	D · NJ		Jan 24, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 8, 2019
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Oct 1, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 3282	Related bill	Sep 15, 2020: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 544.

Summary (as of Oct 30, 2020)

Protecting Business Opportunities for Veterans Act of 2019

This bill applies certain small business subcontracting limitations to contracts that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) awards to a small business concern owned and controlled by a veteran or a veteran with a service-connected disability.

The VA may award such a contract only after obtaining a certification from the offeror that it will comply with such subcontracting limitations if awarded the contract. Such certification shall specify the applicable performance requirements and explicitly acknowledge that the certification is subject to criminal penalties for making false statements in any matter within the jurisdiction of the U.S. government.

The VA Director of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization and the VA Chief Acquisition Officer shall jointly monitor compliance and refer any violation or suspected violation to the VA Inspector General.

If the VA determines that a contract recipient did not act in good faith, such recipient shall be subject to any or all of the following: (1) referral to the VA Debarment and Suspension Committee, (2) a criminal fine, and (3) criminal prosecution.

The Inspector General shall report on (1) the number of referred violations and suspected violations; and (2) the disposition of such violations, including the number of small business concerns suspended or debarred from federal contracting or referred for Department of Justice prosecution.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 30, 2020:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 30, 2020:** Became Public Law No: 116-183.
- **Oct 20, 2020:** Presented to President.
- **Oct 1, 2020:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Sep 30, 2020:** Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Sep 30, 2020:** Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S6001-6002)
- **Sep 30, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Sep 30, 2020:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Feb 27, 2020:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- **Feb 25, 2020:** Mr. Takano moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Feb 25, 2020:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H1180-1182)
- **Feb 25, 2020:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 561.
- **Feb 25, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.
- **Feb 25, 2020:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H1180-1181)
- **Feb 25, 2020:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Oct 16, 2019:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Oct 16, 2019:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Feb 8, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
- **Jan 15, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 15, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.