

## 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**

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- **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.