

## S 673

### Expanding Contracting Opportunities for Small Businesses Act of 2019

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Commerce

**Introduced:** Mar 6, 2019

**Current Status:** Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 116-284.

**Latest Action:** Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 116-284. (Jun 12, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/673>

#### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** IA • **Chamber:** Senate

#### Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Mar 6, 2019
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Mar 26, 2019

#### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Jun 12, 2019

#### Subjects & Policy Tags

##### Policy Area:

Commerce

#### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 190	Related bill	Jan 17, 2019: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

## **Expanding Contracting Opportunities for Small Businesses Act of 2019**

This bill modifies provisions regarding the inclusion of option years in the award price for certain sole source contracts (i.e., contracts awarded without a competitive process) by requiring the base and each of the option years of the award, if any, to be of similar value. Under current law, option years in the award price for such contracts limit their dollar award threshold.

Specifically, the bill revises requirements for the award of these contracts to (1) qualified Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone) small businesses, (2) small businesses owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, (3) economically disadvantaged small businesses owned and controlled by women, (4) small businesses owned and controlled by women in substantially underrepresented industries, and (5) qualified socially and economically disadvantaged small businesses.

The Government Accountability Office must evaluate the policies and practices used by the Small Business Administration and other federal agencies to ensure that contracting officers are properly classifying sole source contracts under procurement programs for businesses owned by women and disabled veterans in the Federal Procurement Data System.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jun 12, 2019:** Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 116-284.
- **Mar 6, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 6, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.