

Date

Honorable **(NAME)**
United States Senate
(ADDRESS) Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator **(NAME)**,

Your company information. On December 16th, 2019 the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4920, Department of Veterans Affairs Contracting Preference Consistency Act.

(Your company name) is very opposed to H.R. 4920's current language. The bill not only turns back efforts over the past 10 years to have the Department of Veterans Affairs comply with Public Law 109-461, commonly known as "VETS First", but also has the potential to put veteran-owned small businesses out of business thru no fault of their own. VETS First was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2016 in Kingdomware Technologies, Inc. v. United States.

Now H.R. 4920 proposes to take opportunities away from service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses in favor of Ability One. While Ability One helps an underserved population the mission of VA is to "Care for Those Whom Bore the Battle". VETS First was established to provide contracting opportunities to service-disabled veterans and further expand employment opportunities for all veterans. Ability One as identified in FAR Part 8 continues to be afforded a higher contracting preference for the rest of the federal government. Service-disabled veterans who followed the rules as developed should not now have contracting opportunities taken away from them thru no fault of their own, especially at the VA. H.R. 4920 will jeopardize the future of many service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses.

We believe compromise language can be added to H.R. 4920 to ensure that service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses are not hurt and that opportunities will continue to exist for Ability One. We are happy to work with you and your staff to make that happen.

However, we urge you to oppose H.R. 4920 with its current language.

Respectfully;