

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 123

Directing legislative branch support offices to take certain actions to promote the procurement of goods and services from the AbilityOne program established under chapter 85 of title 41, United States Code (commonly known as the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act), and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 2, 2024

Ms. CROCKETT (for herself, Mr. MOLINARO, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Mr. THOMPSON of California) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Directing legislative branch support offices to take certain actions to promote the procurement of goods and services from the AbilityOne program established under chapter 85 of title 41, United States Code (commonly known as the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act), and for other purposes.

Whereas in 1971, Congress passed the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act to advance employment opportunities for Americans who are blind or who have significant disabilities by requiring the Federal Government, including legislative entities, when seeking to procure a product or service, to first assess whether their needs can be met by products or services provided by Ability One Participating Agen-

cies and included on the AbilityOne Procurement List maintained by the AbilityOne Commission; and

Whereas, as a result of the AbilityOne Program, tens of thousands of Americans who are blind or who have significant disabilities, including a large and growing number of returning veterans, are employed at competitive wages providing products and services to the Federal Government, greatly enhancing their self-sufficiency and providing critical career skills: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring),*

3 **SECTION 1. APPOINTMENT OF ABILITYONE REPRESENTA-**
4 **TIVE.**

5 (a) DESIGNATION OF POSITION.—Not later than 30
6 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution, the
7 head of each Legislative Branch Support Office shall des-
8 ignate an employee in the Office to serve in a position
9 to be known as the “AbilityOne Representative”.

10 (b) DUTIES.—The employee serving as the
11 AbilityOne Representative of a Legislative Branch Sup-
12 port Office shall carry out the following duties:

13 (1) Promoting the purchase and use of
14 AbilityOne products and services within the office.

15 (2) Providing the data required for preparing
16 the annual report required under section 2.

17 (3) Ensuring compliance with AbilityOne Com-
18 mission regulations, as applicable.

1 (4) Serving as a liaison to Members of Con-
2 gress, AbilityOne Participating Agencies, the
3 AbilityOne Commission, and the Commission's des-
4 ignated central nonprofit agencies on matters in the
5 Office which relate to the AbilityOne program.

6 (5) Developing and monitoring the implementa-
7 tion of a written strategic plan for increasing pro-
8 curement by the Office from the AbilityOne pro-
9 gram.

10 **SEC. 2. ANNUAL REPORT.**

11 Not later than January 1 of each calendar year, be-
12 ginning with 2025, the head of each Legislative Branch
13 Support Office shall submit to Congress a report on—

14 (1) the total amount spent on the procurement
15 of products and services by the office during the pre-
16 vious fiscal year;

17 (2) of the amount described in paragraph (1),
18 the total amount spent on AbilityOne products and
19 services;

20 (3) of the products and services described in
21 paragraph (1), a description of the products or serv-
22 ices which were purchased from the AbilityOne pro-
23 gram and which were not;

24 (4) for each product and service described in
25 paragraph (3) which was not purchased from the

1 AbilityOne program, an explanation of why the prod-
2 uct or service was procured from a source outside of
3 the AbilityOne program;

4 (5) qualitative information on efforts to in-
5 crease procurement through the AbilityOne program;
6 and

7 (6) qualitative information on any obstacles
8 faced in increasing procurement from the AbilityOne
9 program.

10 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

11 In this resolution, the following definitions apply:

12 (1) The term “AbilityOne Commission” means
13 the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are
14 Blind or Severely Disabled established under section
15 8502 of title 41, United States Code.

16 (2) The term “AbilityOne Participating Agen-
17 cy” means a nonprofit agency for the blind or a non-
18 profit agency employing persons with significant dis-
19 abilities which is authorized by the AbilityOne Com-
20 mission to provide products or services pursuant to
21 chapter 85 of title 41, United States Code (com-
22 monly known as the Javits-Wagner-O’Day Act), and
23 associated regulations.

24 (3) The term “AbilityOne Procurement List”
25 means the list of products and services determined

1 by the AbilityOne Commission to be suitable to be
2 procured by the Federal Government from
3 AbilityOne Participating Agencies pursuant to sec-
4 tion 8503 of title 41, United States Code.

5 (4) The term “AbilityOne program” means the
6 program established under chapter 85 of title 41,
7 United States Code (commonly known as the Javits-
8 Wagner-O’Day Act).

9 (5) The term “Legislative Branch Support Of-
10 fice” means an office for which appropriations for
11 salaries and expenses for a fiscal year are provided
12 by the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for
13 such fiscal year, except that such term does not in-
14 clude any office of the House of Representatives or
15 Senate.

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