

May 21, 2015

The Honorable Richard Shelby
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Shelby:

Administrator Contreras-Sweet has asked me to respond to your recent inquiry regarding the status of the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Proposed rule for Small Business Government Contracting and National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2013 Amendments. Specifically, you inquired about the 2013 NDAA's provision that directs the SBA to promulgate rules allowing small business prime contractors to utilize similarly situated entities to meet the performance requirements that apply to set aside contracts.

On December 29, 2014, SBA issued a proposed rule with a comment closing date of April 5, 2015. 79 FR 77955. Due to several requests from stakeholders for an extension of the comment period, SBA granted extended the comment period until May 6, 2015. 80 FR 18556. The SBA is acting as quickly as possible to review and categorize all public comments and prepare responses for preparation of SBA's final rule. Once SBA's proposed rule is finalized it will be introduced to the Federal Acquisition Regulatory (FAR) Council for developing a FAR Case to codify SBA's regulations into the FAR.

We appreciate your support of SBA and the Alabama small business community. If you and your staff have any questions, please contact the SBA Office of Congressional Affairs at (202) 205-6700.

Sincerely,

John Shoraka
Associate Administrator
Office of Government Contracting and Business Development