
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alliance for Expanding America's Workforce Endorses Bipartisan Legislation to Strengthen the AbilityOne Program

Congressmen Hoyer and Sessions introduce H.R. 10443, the *American Procurement Improvement Act*, to build upon and strengthen the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled to ensure it continues as an essential procurement and employment program.

September 17, 2026

Washington, D.C. — The Alliance for Expanding America's Workforce (AEAW), a national coalition of organizations committed to expanding employment opportunities for people with disabilities, applauds Representatives **Steny Hoyer (D-Md.)** and **Pete Sessions (R-Tex.)** today for introducing the **American Procurement Improvement Act**, bipartisan legislation to modernize the AbilityOne Program and strengthen one of the nation's most effective pathways to employment for Americans who are blind or have significant disabilities.

The legislation has garnered widespread support from 50 leading organizations in federal procurement, disability advocacy, and workforce representation, including the Alliance for Expanding America's Workforce.

"For decades the AbilityOne Program has demonstrated how the government can leverage its purchasing power to create jobs for Americans with disabilities," said Bartholomew Devon, Executive Director of the Alliance for Expanding America's Workforce. "This legislation will help create new opportunities for career growth, enhance professional development, and promote economic independence for employees with disabilities. The members of the Alliance are grateful to Representatives Hoyer and Sessions for their bipartisan leadership and for recognizing the extraordinary contributions disabled Americans make to our nation's economy and our communities."

The American Procurement Improvement Act advances a series of reforms aimed at strengthening the AbilityOne Program and positioning it for long-term success and sustainability. Among its key provisions, the legislation:

- Expands opportunities for career growth by removing statutory barriers that can limit employee retention, advancement and workforce mobility;
- Aligns the AbilityOne Program with current federal procurement practices and streamlines procurement processes; and
- Enhances accountability and program integrity by reinforcing oversight, transparency, worker protections, and ensures responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

By modernizing the procurement framework of the Program, while preserving its core mission, the legislation seeks to ensure that Americans who are blind or have significant disabilities continue to have access to meaningful employment opportunities and pathways to economic self-sufficiency.

“This legislation reflects a shared commitment to ensuring the AbilityOne Program continues to open doors and change lives,” said Ken Crum, Chair of the Governing Board of the Alliance for Expanding America's Workforce. “We appreciate the bipartisan leadership of Representatives Hoyer and Sessions and look forward to working collaboratively to advance this legislation and build on the Program’s success.”

For more information, please see the official press releases: [Hoyer](#) / [Sessions](#). Full bill text can be found [here](#).

The Alliance for Expanding America’s Workforce (AEAW) is an independent, nationwide coalition of government contractors, advocates, and seasoned employers dedicated to modernizing federal procurement, hiring practices, and employment policies to drive greater workforce success for people with disabilities. Grounded in real-world expertise and cross-sector collaboration, AEAW works to advance holistic, bipartisan strategies that increase community engagement, reduce benefit dependency, and expand meaningful career opportunities for disabled Americans.

AEAW Contact:
Bartholomew Devon
Info@ExpandingAmericasWorkforce.org
804-350-2949