

August 26, 2019

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
United States Senate  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Johnny Isakson  
United States Senate  
Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
United States Senate  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jon Tester  
United States Senate  
Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Shelby, Chairman Isakson, Ranking Member Leahy and Ranking Member Tester,

The over 300 undersigned organizations request your immediate action to prevent the loss of employment opportunities for veterans and other people who are blind or have significant disabilities. The AbilityOne® Program (Program) provides a critical source of employment to more than 40,000 people with significant disabilities, including more than 3,000 veterans with disabilities. Across the nation, AbilityOne nonprofit agencies hold contracts with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for services and products on the AbilityOne Procurement List. These VA contracts employ more than 2,000 people who are blind or have significant disabilities, including many veterans. We are deeply concerned this critical source of employment is at risk and this dangerous precedent will expand to create future job loss at the state level. We respectfully seek your support in resolving this issue.

The Veterans Benefits, Health Care, and Information Technology Act of 2006 (VBA) and a provision known as the "Rule of Two" allows VA contracting officers to restrict competition to veteran-owned small businesses if at least two such businesses will submit offers and the award can be made at a fair and reasonable price. However, due to a recent Federal court decision and subsequent VA regulatory guidance, existing AbilityOne contracts with the VA are in question and thousands of jobs are at risk. Elimination of AbilityOne contracts will result in job loss, and in some cases, the complete closure of organizations that provide critical services in their local communities. Providing meaningful employment opportunities through the AbilityOne Program for people who are blind or have significant disabilities, many of whom are veterans, is crucial to increasing their personal and economic independence. Any job loss will have an exponential impact on the family and community members of these individuals.

We believe the VBA and the AbilityOne Program are both important to creating opportunities for underserved populations and can co-exist while meeting their respective missions. We urge you to include and support the following language in the Fiscal Year 2020 Military Construction-VA Appropriations bill to ensure the maximum number of AbilityOne jobs are maintained while also supporting contracting opportunities for veteran business owners:

***"For any contract issued to a veteran-owned small business concern under 38 USC 8127(i) that includes the fulfillment of any product or service requirement listed on the AbilityOne Commission Procurement List, any portion of a Procurement-Listed requirement not performed by the veteran-owned small business concern shall be subcontracted to the designated AbilityOne provider of such a product or service."***

With millions of people with disabilities outside the workforce, including veterans, it is critical to maximize – not minimize – job opportunities offered through the AbilityOne Program. Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your steadfast support of critical employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Sincerely,

## NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

ACCSES  
 Easterseals  
 Goodwill Industries International, Inc.  
 SourceAmerica  
 The Arc of the United States  
 The Network of Jewish Human Services Agencies  
 United Cerebral Palsy Network

## ALABAMA

Alabama Goodwill Industries, Inc.  
 Bobby Dodd Institute  
 Global Connections to Employment, Inc.  
 Goodwill Easterseals of the Gulf Coast\*  
 Goodwill Industries of Central Alabama  
 Goodwill Industries of the Southern River, Inc.  
 Opportunity Center-Easter Seals  
 Opportunity Center, Inc.  
 Phoenix/Huntsville Rehabilitation Foundation\*  
 PRIDE Industries  
 ServiceSource, Inc.  
 United Ability  
 Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center, Inc.\*

## ALASKA

Assets, Inc.  
 CW Resources, Inc.  
 Global Connections to Employment, Inc.  
 MQC Enterprises, Inc.  
 Nobis Enterprises, Inc.

## ARIZONA

ACHIEVE Human Services, Inc.  
 Beacon Group  
 Employment Source Inc. (ServiceSource, North Carolina)  
 Enterprise Professional Services, Inc.  
 Job Options, Inc.  
 Peckham, Inc.  
 Premier Alliances, Inc.  
 The Centers For |Habilitation (TCH)\*  
 VersAbility Resources, Inc.

## ARKANSAS

Abilities Unlimited  
 Abilities Unlimited of Fort Smith  
 MARVA Workshop, Inc.  
 Pathfinder, Inc.

PRIDE Industries  
 Skookum Educational Programs

## CALIFORNIA

Asian Rehabilitation Services, Inc.  
 Bakersfield ARC, Inc.  
 CW Resources, Inc.  
 Desert Haven Enterprises, Incorporated  
 Easter Seals Superior California  
 Exceptional Children's Foundation  
 Global Connections to Employment, Inc.  
 Goodwill Industries of Southern California  
 Goodwill Industries of the Greater East Bay and Calidad Industries, Inc.  
 HHI Services, Inc.  
 Hope Services  
 Imperial County Work Training Center, Inc.  
 Job Options, Inc.\*  
 Landmark Services, Inc.  
 Life Options, Vocational and Resource Center  
 Nobis Enterprises, Inc.  
 North Bay Industries  
 North Valley Services  
 OPARC

Pacific Coast Community Services  
 PRIDE Industries\*  
 Project HIRED  
 Siskiyou Opportunity Center  
 The Arc of Imperial Valley  
 The Arc of San Diego  
 The Centers For Habilitation (TCH)  
 The Roland Center  
 Toolworks  
 United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay, Inc.  
 VersAbility Resources, Inc.  
 VTC Enterprises

## COLORADO

AspenPointe  
 Discover Goodwill of Southern and Western Colorado  
 Global Connections to Employment, Inc.  
 Jewish Family Service of Colorado  
 Nobis Enterprises, Inc.  
 North Metro Community Services  
 Phoenix/Huntsville Rehabilitation Foundation

Professional Contract Services, Inc.  
 Pueblo Diversified Industries, Inc.  
 ServiceSource, Inc.

## CONNECTICUT

CW Resources, Inc.\*  
 Global Connections to Employment, Inc.  
 Jewish Family Service of Greater New Haven  
 State Use Programs Association  
 The Kennedy Center\*  
 VersAbility Resources, Inc.  
 Work, Inc.

## DELAWARE

Ability Network of Delaware  
 Chimes DC  
 Chimes International  
 Fedcap  
 Homes For Life Foundation  
 Human Technologies Center  
 Kent Sussex Industries  
 Opportunity Center, Inc.\*  
 ServiceSource, Inc.  
 State Use Programs Association

## FLORIDA

AWRC  
 Bobby Dodd Institute  
 Brevard Achievement Center\*  
 CARC-Advocates for Citizens with Disabilities, Inc.  
 Challenge Enterprises of North Florida  
 CW Resources, Inc.  
 Dr. Stanley and Pearl Goodman JFS of Boward County, Inc.  
 Employment Source Inc. (ServiceSource, North Carolina)  
 Fedcap  
 Florida ARF  
 Global Connections to Employment, Inc.\*  
 Goodwill Easterseals of the Gulf Coast  
 Goodwill Industries of North Florida  
 Goodwill Industries of South Florida, Inc.  
 Gulfstream Goodwill Industries  
 Job Options, Inc.  
 PRIDE Industries  
 ServiceSource, Inc.  
 SMA Healthcare  
 State Use Programs Association

**FLORIDA (cont.)**

Training, Rehabilitation, and Development Institute, Inc. (TRDI)  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.  
Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

**GEORGIA**

Austin Task, Inc.  
Bobby Dodd Institute\*  
Easterseals East Georgia  
Fedcap  
Good Vocations, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries of North Georgia  
Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries of the Southern River, Inc.\*  
Goodwill of Middle Georgia and the CSRA\*  
GWI Services, Inc.  
Job Options, Inc.  
Middle Georgia Diversified, Inc.  
New Ventures Enterprises, Inc.  
Nobis Enterprises, Inc.\*  
PRIDE Industries  
Professional Contract Services, Inc.  
State Use Programs Association  
Training, Rehabilitation, and Development Institute, Inc. (TRDI)  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.  
Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

**HAWAII**

Goodwill Industries of Hawaii  
HHI Services, Inc.  
Lanakila Pacific  
Network Enterprises, Inc.  
PRIDE Industries  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.

**IDAHO**

Dawn Enterprises, Inc.  
Development Workshop Inc.\*  
New Day Products, Inc.  
Skookum Educational Programs  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.

**ILLINOIS**

Ada S. McKinley Community Services, Inc.\*  
Challenge Unlimited, Inc.\*  
Clearbrook  
CW Resources, Inc.  
Fedcap

Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin, Inc.

Human Resources Center of Edgar and Clark Counties\*

Opportunity Secure Data Destruction (Glenkirk)

Rolling Hills Progress Center  
TRI Industries NFP

**INDIANA**

Ada S. McKinley Community Services, Inc.  
AWRC\*  
Goodwill of Central and Southern Indiana  
GW Commercial Services, Inc.  
Human Resources Center of Edgar and Clark Counties  
KCARC  
Nobis Enterprises, Inc.  
Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries  
Professional Contract Services, Inc.  
Rauch, Inc.  
Shares, Inc.  
State Use Programs Association  
Stone Belt Arc, Incorporated  
Sunfish Consulting and Chair of the Ability Indiana Committee\*  
Tradewinds Services, Inc.

**IOWA**

Genesis Development  
Goodwill Solutions, Inc.  
Heartland Goodwill Enterprises

**KANSAS**

Center Industries Corporation  
Cottonwood, Inc.  
Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas  
Nobis Enterprises, Inc.  
Skookum Educational Programs  
Training, Rehabilitation, and Development Institute, Inc. (TRDI)

**KENTUCKY**

Employment Source Inc.  
(ServiceSource, North Carolina)  
Global Connections to Employment, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries of Kentucky  
InspiriTec, Inc.  
Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries  
Opportunity Center Workshop

Opportunity Workshop of Lexington, Inc.

Pennyroyal Regional MH-MR Board, Inc. (Trace Industries)

Pioneer Vocational / Industrial Services, Inc.

PRIDE Industries

Professional Contract Services, Inc.  
SEKRI, Inc.\*

ServiceSource, Inc.

Training, Rehabilitation, and Development Institute, Inc. (TRDI)

Zoom Group, Inc.

**LOUISIANA**

ARC of Sabine  
Enterprise Professional Services, Inc.  
Fedcap  
Global Connections to Employment, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries of North Louisiana, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Louisiana, Inc.  
HHI Services, Inc.  
PRIDE Industries  
State Use Programs Association  
The Arc Caddo-Boosier  
UpLIFTD  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.

**MAINE**

Fedcap  
Goodwill Northern New England\*

**MARYLAND**

Chesapeake Bay Industries, Inc.  
Chimes DC  
Chimes International  
Community Work Services (CWS)  
Didlake, Inc.  
Fedcap  
Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake, Inc.  
Hagerstown Goodwill Industries, Inc. (Horizon Goodwill Industries, Inc.)\*  
Nobis Enterprises, Inc.  
MVLE, Inc.  
NW Works, Inc.  
Opportunity Center, Inc.  
Portco, Inc.  
PRIDE Industries  
ServiceSource, Inc.  
Skookum Educational Programs

**MARYLAND (cont.)**

State Use Programs Association  
The Arc Baltimore  
The Center for Life Enrichment, Inc.

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Community Work Services (CWS)\*  
CW Resources, Inc.  
Fedcap  
Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries  
Nobis Enterprises, Inc.  
Sunshine Village  
The Kennedy Center  
Work, Inc.\*

**MICHIGAN**

Calhoun County Community Mental Health (Summit Pointe)  
Challenge Unlimited, Inc.  
Community Enterprises of St. Clair County  
Grand Traverse Industries  
Hope Network  
JVS Human Services - Detroit  
Lakestate Industries  
Navigations Incorporated  
New Horizon Rehabilitation Services, Inc.  
Northeastern Michigan Rehabilitation and Opportunity Center  
Northern Transitions, Inc.  
Peckham, Inc.\*  
Professional Contract Services, Inc.  
SVRC Industries, Inc.  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.  
Work Skills Corporation

**MINNESOTA**

AcessAbility, Inc.  
Global Connections to Employment, Inc.  
MDI Government Services  
Occupational Development Center, Inc.  
Tasks Unlimited, Inc.

**MISSISSIPPI**

Mississippi Goodworks, Inc.  
Nobis Enterprises, Inc.  
Warren County ARC, Inc.

**MISSOURI**

AWRC  
Blue Valley Industries  
CW Resources, Inc.

Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas\*  
Job One  
Portco, Inc.  
ServiceSource, Inc.

**MONTANA**

Opportunity Resources, Inc.  
Skils'kin  
Skookum Educational Programs

**NEBRASKA**

BH Services, Inc.  
Goodwill Specialty Services, Inc.  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.

**NEVADA**

Great Plains Enterprises, Inc.  
Opportunity Village  
PRIDE Industries  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Community Work Services (CWS)  
CW Resources, Inc.  
Fedcap  
Goodwill Northern New England

**NEW JERSEY**

Chimes DC  
Chimes International  
Community Work Services (CWS)  
Employment Horizons, Inc.  
Fedcap  
InspiriTec, Inc.  
Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies (NJHSA)  
Occupational Training Center of Burlington County\*  
Opportunity Center, Inc.  
PRIDE Industries  
State Use Programs Association  
The Arc of Bergen and Passiac Counties  
The Arc of Camden County  
The Resource Center

**NEW MEXICO**

Adelante Development Center, Inc.  
CW Resources, Inc.  
LifeROOTS, Inc.  
Phoenix/Huntsville Rehabilitation Foundation  
Skookum Educational Programs  
State Use Programs Association

Training, Rehabilitation, and Development Institute, Inc. (TRDI)  
Tresco, Inc.

**NEW YORK**

AHRC New York City  
Arc Herkimer  
Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence  
Arc of Cattaraugus Niagara Counties Chapter  
Arc of Chemung  
Arc of Genesee Orleans  
Arc of Schuyler  
Clinton County Chapter NYSARC, Inc. (Advocacy & Resource Center)  
Community Work Services (CWS)  
Fedcap\*  
Gateway Community Industries  
Human Technologies Center\*  
NYSARC, Inc., Seneca-Cayuga Counties Chapter  
Onondaga County Chapter NYSARC, Inc.  
Peckham, Inc.  
Schenectady Arc  
State Use Programs Association  
Suburban Adult Services, Inc. (sasi)  
Supports for Living Inc.  
The Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence  
The Arc New York  
The Corporate Source, Inc.\*  
The Workshop, Incorporated  
Warren, Washington and Albany Counties Chapter of NYSARC, Inc.  
Work, Inc.

**NORTH CAROLINA**

Brevard Achievement Center  
Chimes DC  
Chimes International  
Coastal Enterprises of Jacksonville, Inc.  
Durham Exchange Club Industries  
Eastern Carolina Vocational Center, Inc. (ECVC)  
Fedcap  
Employment Source Inc. (ServiceSource, North Carolina)\*  
Haywood Vocational Opportunities, Inc.  
Nobis Enterprises, Inc.  
OE Enterprises, Inc.\*  
Portco, Inc.  
ServiceSource, Inc.  
Skills, Inc.  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.

## **NORTH DAKOTA**

Alpha Opportunities, Inc.  
CW Resources, Inc.  
MVW Services, Inc.  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.

## **OHIO**

A Team Ohio  
AWRC  
Challenge Unlimited, Inc.  
Coleman Professional Services  
Greene, Inc.  
Licking/Know Goodwill, Inc.  
Murray Ridge Production Center, Inc.  
Nobis Enterprises, Inc.  
Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries\*  
Portco, Inc.  
TAC Industries, Inc.  
The Alpha Group of Delaware, Inc.  
VGS, Inc.  
Weaver Industries, Inc.

## **OKLAHOMA**

Dale Rogers Training Center  
Professional Contract Services, Inc.  
State Use Programs Association  
Work Services Corporation

## **OREGON**

Easterseals Oregon  
Garten  
Opportunity Connections\*  
ORA QRF/State Use Committee  
Relay Resources\*  
State Use Programs Association\*  
Sunrise Enterprises, Inc.

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

Beaver County Association for the Blind  
Butler County Association for the Blind, Inc.  
Cambria County Association for the Blind and Handicapped  
Chimes DC  
Chimes International  
Dr. Gertrude A Barber Center, Inc. (Barber National Institute)  
Elwyn  
Fedcap  
Goodwill Keystone Area  
Goodwill Services, Inc.  
Hagerstown Goodwill Industries, Inc. (Horizon Goodwill Industries, Inc.)  
Human Technologies Center

## **INSPIRITEC**

InspiriTec, Inc.\*  
Jewish Family and Community Services\*  
Lark Enterprises, Inc.  
Nobis Enterprises, Inc.  
NuVision Center  
Occupational Training Center of Burlington County Opportunity Center, Inc.  
Penn-York Opportunities, Inc.  
Portco, Inc.  
ServiceSource, Inc.  
Skookum Educational Programs  
State Use Programs Association  
Sunfish Consulting and Chair of the Ability Indiana Committee  
The Burnley Workshop of the Poconos, Inc.  
Westmoreland County Blind Association

## **RHODE ISLAND**

Community Work Services (CWS)  
CW Resources, Inc.  
Fedcap  
James L. Maher Center

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

Challenge Unlimited, Inc.  
Global Connections to Employment, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries of Upstate/ Midlands SC  
Goodwill of Middle Georgia and the CSRA  
OE Enterprises, Inc.  
Palmetto Goodwill Services  
Tri-Development Center of Aiken County, Inc.  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

BH Services, Inc.\*  
Huron Area Center for Independence  
LifeScape  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.

## **TENNESSEE**

Arc Knox County (Sunshine Industries)  
Bobby Dodd Institute  
Global Connections to Employment, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries-Knoxville, Inc.  
Memphis Goodwill Industries, Inc.

## **NOBIS ENTERPRISES**

PRIDE Industries  
SEKRI, Inc.  
Skookum Educational Programs  
Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

## **TEXAS**

Austin Task, Inc.\*  
Community Work Services (CWS)  
CW Resources, Inc.  
Enterprise Professional Services, Inc.\*  
Goodwill Industries of San Antonio Contract Services, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries of South Texas Contract Services, Inc.  
HHI Services, Inc.\*  
Nobis Enterprises, Inc.  
Nueces Center for Mental Health & Intellectual Disabilities (NCMHID)  
On Our Own Services, Inc.  
Opportunity Center, Inc.  
ORC Industries, Inc.  
Phoenix/Huntsville Rehabilitation Foundation  
PRIDE Industries  
Professional Contract Services, Inc.\*  
ReadyOne Industries, Inc.  
Rising Star Resource Development Corporation  
ServiceSource, Inc.  
Skookum Educational Programs  
State Use Programs Association  
Sunfish Consulting and Chair of the Ability Indiana Committee  
The Center for Pursuit  
Training, Rehabilitation, and Development Institute, Inc. (TRDI)\*  
Travis Association for the Blind  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.  
Work Services Corporation\*  
World Technical Services, Inc.

## **UTAH**

CW Resources, Inc.  
Job Options, Inc.  
PARC  
Professional Contract Services, Inc.

## **VERMONT**

Goodwill Northern New England Work, Inc.

## **VIRGINIA**

Brevard Achievement Center

## **VIRGINIA (cont.)**

Chimes DC  
Chimes International  
CW Resources, Inc.  
Didlake, Inc.\*  
ECHO  
Eggleson  
Employment Source Inc.  
(ServiceSource, North Carolina)  
Friendship Industries, Inc.  
Global Connections to  
Employment, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries of the Valleys, Inc.  
Goodwill Services, Inc.  
Hagerstown Goodwill Industries, Inc.  
(Horizon Goodwill Industries, Inc.)  
Human Technologies Center  
Job Options, Inc.  
Lynchburg Sheltered Industries, Inc.  
Mount Rogers IDC, a division of Mount  
Rogers Community Services  
MVLE, Inc.\*  
NW Works, Inc.\*  
Phoenix/Huntsville Rehabilitation  
Foundation  
Portco, Inc.\*  
PRIDE Industries  
Professional Contract Services, Inc.  
Rappahannock Goodwill  
Industries, Inc.  
Sara's Mentoring Center, Inc.  
ServiceSource, Inc.\*  
SOAR 365  
State Use Programs Association  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.\*  
WorkSource Enterprises

## **WASHINGTON**

At Work!  
Cascade Connections  
Chinook Enterprises  
Columbia Industries  
HHI Services, Inc.  
Lillie Rice Center, Inc.  
New Leaf, Inc.  
Northwest Center  
Opportunity Connections  
PRIDE Industries  
Professional Contract Services, Inc.  
Relay Resources  
Skills'kin\*  
Skookum Educational Programs\*  
VersAbility Resources, Inc.  
Yakima Specialties, Inc.

## **WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Chimes DC\*  
Chimes International\*  
Didlake, Inc.  
Fedcap  
Global Connections to  
Employment, Inc.  
Goodwill of Greater Washington  
MVLE, Inc.  
NW Works, Inc.  
Opportunity Center, Inc.  
ServiceSource, Inc.

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

Gateway Industries Inc.  
Hagerstown Goodwill Industries, Inc.  
(Horizon Goodwill Industries, Inc.)  
Jewish Family and Community Services  
PACE Enterprises of West Virginia, Inc.  
The Sheltered Workshop of Nicholas  
County, Inc.  
SW Resources, Inc.

## **WISCONSIN**

Ada S. McKinley Community  
Services, Inc.  
ASPIRO, Inc.  
Challenge Unlimited, Inc.  
Chippewa River Industries, Inc.  
Creative Community Living  
Services, Inc.  
Goodwill Industries of Southeastern  
Wisconsin, Inc.\*  
MARC Inc.  
Northwoods, Inc. of Wisconsin  
Opportunities, Inc.  
ORC Industries, Inc.\*  
RCS Empowers, Inc.

## **WYOMING**

Development Workshop Inc.  
Northwest Community Action  
Programs of Wyoming, Inc. (NOWCAP)  
Skills'kin

## **TERRITORIES:**

### **GUAM**

Pacific Ability Resources, Inc. (PARI)  
iCAN Resources, Inc.

### **PUERTO RICO**

Brevard Achievement Center  
Puerto Rico Industries for the  
Blind, Corp.  
The Corporate Source, Inc.

### **U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS**

The Corporate Source, Inc.