

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
OF H.R. 1960
OFFERED BY MR. SCHRADER OF OREGON**

At the title XVI, insert the following new section:

1 **SEC. 1607. PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FEDERAL CONTRACTS**
2 **TO EARLY STAGE SMALL BUSINESSES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Small Business Act (15
4 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the
5 following:

6 **“SEC. 48. PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FEDERAL CONTRACTS TO**
7 **EARLY STAGE SMALL BUSINESSES.**

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall es-
9 tablish and carry out a program in accordance with the
10 requirements of this section to provide improved access to
11 Federal contract opportunities for early stage small busi-
12 ness concerns.

13 “(b) PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out subsection
15 (a), the Administrator, in consultation with other
16 Federal agencies, shall identify procurement con-
17 tracts of Federal agencies for award under the pro-
18 gram.

1 “(2) CONTRACT AWARDS.—Under the program
2 established pursuant to this section, the award of a
3 procurement contract of a Federal agency identified
4 by the Administrator pursuant to paragraph (1)
5 shall be made by the agency to an eligible program
6 participant selected, and determined to be respon-
7 sible, by the agency.

8 “(3) COMPETITION.—

9 “(A) SOLE SOURCE.—A contracting officer
10 may award a sole source contract under this
11 program if such concern is determined to be a
12 responsible contractor with respect to perform-
13 ance of such contract opportunity and the con-
14 tracting officer does not have a reasonable ex-
15 pectation that 2 or more early stage small busi-
16 ness concerns will submit offers for the con-
17 tracting opportunity and in the estimation of
18 the contracting officer, the contract award can
19 be made at a fair and reasonable price.

20 “(B) RESTRICTED COMPETITION.—A con-
21 tracting officer may award contracts on the
22 basis of competition restricted to early stage
23 small business concerns if the contracting offi-
24 cer has a reasonable expectation that not less
25 than 2 early stage small business concerns will

1 submit offers and that the award can be made
2 at a fair market price.

3 “(4) CONTRACT VALUE.—Contracts shall be
4 awarded under this program if its value is greater
5 than \$3,000 and less than half the upper threshold
6 of section 15(j)(1) of the Small Business Act.

7 “(c) ELIGIBILITY.—Only an early stage small busi-
8 ness concern shall be eligible to compete for a contract
9 to be awarded under the program. The Administrator shall
10 certify that a small business concern is an early stage
11 small business concern, or the Administrator shall approve
12 a Federal agency, a State government, or a national certi-
13 fying entity to certify that the business meets the eligi-
14 bility criteria of an early stage small business concern.

15 “(d) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator
16 shall provide early stage small business concerns with
17 technical assistance and counseling with regard to—

18 “(1) applying for and competing for Federal
19 contracts; and

20 “(2) fulfilling the administrative responsibilities
21 associated with the performance of a Federal con-
22 tract.

23 “(e) ATTAINMENT OF CONTRACT GOALS.—All con-
24 tract awards made under the program shall be counted

1 toward the attainment of the goals specified in section
2 15(g) of the Small Business Act.

3 “(f) REGULATIONS.—The Administrator shall—

4 “(1) issue proposed regulations to carry out
5 this section not later than 180 days after the date
6 of enactment of this Act; and

7 “(2) issue final regulations to carry out this
8 section not later than 270 days after the date of en-
9 actment of this Act.

10 “(g) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than April
11 30, 2015, the Administrator shall transmit to the Con-
12 gress a report on the performance of the program.

13 “(h) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the
14 following definitions shall apply:

15 “(1) PROGRAM.—The term ‘program’ means a
16 program established pursuant to subsection (a).

17 “(2) EARLY STAGE SMALL BUSINESS CON-
18 CERN.—The term ‘early stage small business con-
19 cern’ means a small business concern that—

20 “(A) has not more than 15 employees; and

21 “(B) has average annual receipts that total
22 not more than \$1,000,000, except if the con-
23 cern is in an industry with an average annual
24 revenue standard that is less than \$1,000,000,

1 as defined by the North American Industry
2 Classification System.”.

3 (b) REPEAL OF SIMILAR PROGRAM.—Section 304 of
4 the Small Business Administration Reauthorization and
5 Amendments Act of 1994 (15 U.S.C. 644 note) is re-
6 pealed.

