

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Small Business
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6515

NOTICE OF HEARING

February 12, 2015

Immediately following the Organizational Meeting
2360 Rayburn House Office Building

TO: Members, Committee on Small Business

FROM: Steve Chabot, Chairman

DATE: Thursday, February 5, 2015

The Committee on Small Business will meet for a hearing titled, "*Contracting and the Industrial Base.*" **The hearing is scheduled to begin immediately following the conduct of other Committee Business on Thursday, February 12, 2015 in Room 2360 of the Rayburn House Office Building.**

Since Fiscal Year 2011, the percentage of federal contract dollars awarded to small businesses has increased each year. While the fact that nearly \$100 billion in contracts are being awarded to small businesses would normally be heralded as a success, a deeper dive into the numbers shows that the number of small business contract actions fell by almost 60 percent and the average size of a contract action increased 230 percent. This reflects that fewer small businesses are winning contracts, but those contracts are worth more, which may indicate a weakness in the industrial base.

Therefore, at the first in a series of hearings, the Committee will receive testimony on barriers to the maximum practicable utilization of small businesses to support the industrial base. This hearing will focus on 1) surety bond issues; 2) the use of reverse auctions; 3) failure to properly use a two-step procurement process for design build contracts; 4) the use of joint ventures and teams; and 5) the nonmanufacturer rule.

A staff briefing will be held on Monday, February 9, 2015 at 2:00 P.M. in Room 2360 of the Rayburn House Office Building.

If you or your staff has any questions, please contact, Emily Murphy, Senior Counsel to the Committee, at 202-225-5821.