

April 25, 2012

The Honorable Darrell Issa  
Chairman  
Committee on Oversight and  
Government Reform  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Oversight and  
Government Reform  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Issa and Ranking Member Cummings:

The undersigned organizations strongly support H.R. 2008, the “Keeping Politics Out of Federal Contracting Act of 2011,” and urge the members of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform to support and favorably consider this important legislation when it is marked up by the committee. H.R. 2008 is offered in response to a draft Executive Order under consideration by the Obama Administration and, if enacted, would preclude the White House from forcing federal agencies to require entities to disclose their political spending—as well as that of their officers and directors—as a condition of participating in the federal procurement process.

The legislation would help ensure that political spending—or the lack thereof—continues to play no role in federal contracting decisions. The legislation reaffirms the principle, currently embodied in federal procurement laws, that the Executive Branch has an obligation to procure goods and services based on the best value for the American taxpayer, and not on political considerations. It also reaffirms the principle that the Administration cannot enact through executive fiat legislation that Congress has considered and explicitly rejected.

The undersigned organizations strongly support the “Keeping Politics Out of Federal Contracting Act” and urge the members of the committee to vote for it as well as to oppose any hostile and/or weakening amendments.

Sincerely,

60 Plus Association  
Aeronautical Repair Station Association  
Aerospace Industries Association  
Agricultural Retailers Association  
Air Conditioning Contractors of America  
Air Transport Association  
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association  
American Apparel & Footwear Association  
American Bakers Association  
American Business Conference  
American Chemistry Council  
American Composites Manufacturers Association  
American Council of Engineering Companies

American Family Business Institute  
American Foundry Society  
American Frozen Food Institute  
American Hotel & Lodging Association  
American Insurance Association  
American Iron and Steel Institute  
American Lighting Association  
American Meat Institute  
American Moving & Storage Association  
American Nursery & Landscape Association  
American Petroleum Institute  
American Road & Transportation Builders Association  
American Supply Association  
American Trucking Associations  
American Wholesale Marketers Association  
Arkansas State Chamber/Associated Industries of Arkansas (AR)  
Arizona-New Mexico Cable Communications Association (AZ)  
Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc.  
Associated Builders & Contractors Mid-Tennessee Chapter  
Associated Builders & Contractors, Rocky Mountain Chapter  
Associated Equipment Distributors  
Associated General Contractors  
Associated General Contractors of Maine  
Associated Industries of Massachusetts (MA)  
Associated Wire Rope Fabricators  
Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies (CA)  
Association of Equipment Manufacturers  
Association of Washington Business (WA)  
Bismarck Mandan Chamber (ND)  
Brick Industry Association  
Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce (AZ)  
Buffalo Niagara Partnership (NY)  
Business Coalition for Fair Competition  
Business Council of Alabama (AL)  
California Association of Health Plans  
Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry (PA)  
Club Managers Association of America  
Colorado Association of Commerce & Industry  
Construction Industry Round Table  
Construction Management Association of America  
Council on Federal Procurement of Architectural and Engineering Services  
Edison Electric Institute  
El Centro Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau (CA)  
Financial Executives International  
Florida Chamber of Commerce  
Food Marketing Institute  
Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce (NE)  
Georgia Association of Health Plans (GA)  
Georgia Chamber of Commerce (GA)

Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce (VA)  
Healthcare Distribution Management Association  
Heating, Airconditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International  
Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc.  
Independent Lubricant Manufacturers Association  
Indiana Chamber of Commerce  
Indiana Manufactures Association  
Industrial Fasteners Institute  
Industrial Supply Association  
Inland Pacific Chapter Associated Builders and Contractors  
International Dairy Foods Association  
International Foodservice Distributors Association  
International Franchise Association  
International Warehouse Logistics Association  
ISSA – The Worldwide Cleaning Industry Association  
Johnson City, Jonesborough Washington County Chamber of Commerce (TN)  
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce  
Louisiana Association of Business and Industry  
Maine State Chamber of Commerce  
Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors  
Manufacturer & Business Association (PA)  
Marine Retailers Association of America  
Metals Service Center Institute  
Missouri Chamber of Commerce (MO)  
Montana Chamber of Commerce (MT)  
Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce (AL)  
Motorcycle Industry Council  
National Association of Chemical Distributors  
National Association of Electrical Distributors  
National Association of Home Builders  
National Association of Manufacturers  
National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors  
National Automobile Dealers Association  
National Beer Wholesalers Association  
National Council of Chain Restaurants  
National Council of Textile Organizations  
National Electrical Contractors Association  
National Electrical Manufacturers Association  
National Federation of Independent Business  
National Grain and Feed Association  
National Marine Distributors Association  
National Propane Gas Association  
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association  
National Restaurant Association  
National Retail Federation  
National Roofing Contractors Association  
National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association  
National Wood Flooring Association  
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry (NE)

North American Die Casting Association  
North American Equipment Dealers Association  
North Dakota Chamber of Commerce (ND)  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
Ohio Chamber of Commerce  
Ohio Restaurant Association  
Ohio Society of CPAs (OH)  
Oshkosh Chamber of Chamber (WI)  
Outdoor Power Equipment Aftermarket Association  
Outdoor Power Equipment and Engine Service Association  
Outdoor Power Equipment Institute  
Palm Desert Area Chamber of Commerce (CA)  
Pelican Chapter, Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc  
Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry (PA)  
Petroleum Equipment Institute  
Pet Food Institute  
Portland Cement Association  
Public Service Research Council  
ReAL Action Network  
Regular Folks United  
Reno Sparks Chamber of Commerce (NV)  
Retail Industry Leaders Association  
Rubber Manufacturers Association  
Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce (MD)  
Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce (PA)  
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council  
Southwestern Association (Kansas City, MO)  
St George Area Chamber of Commerce (UT)  
Tempe Chamber of Commerce (AZ)  
Textile Rental Services Association  
The Aluminum Association  
The Hosiery Association  
The Kansas Chamber (KS)  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
U.S. Travel Association  
Utah Restaurant Association (UT)  
Warren County Regional Chamber of Commerce (NJ)  
Washington Automotive Wholesalers Association (WA)  
Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of America  
Wisconsin Grocers Association  
Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce  
Wichita Independent Business Association (KS)  
Wyoming Stock Growers Association