



We Decide
The Voice for **Women** In Business
In Our Nation's Capital

March 3, 2010

The Honorable Olympia Snowe
Ranking Member, Small Business & Entrepreneurship Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Snowe,

We are writing to express our support for S.2989, the Small Business Contracting Revitalization Act of 2010. Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP) represents forty-nine organizations and over half a million members nationwide, many of whom are government contractors.

The provisions that are especially important to WIPP members include limiting contract bundling, and requiring prime contractors to justify underutilizing subcontractors in their subcontracting plans. In addition, we strongly support the provision of prompt payment to subcontractors.

WIPP believes that increasing small business participation in government wide acquisition contracts will open up opportunities for women owned businesses. Although we all agree that efforts should be made to stop large businesses from registering as small businesses, we are also mindful of the paperwork already required of small businesses. Annual certification seems to be an excessive paperwork burden on small contractors.

WIPP supports size standard reviews and believe the report required on the success of mentor-protégé programs will shed light on best practices with respect to these programs.

As this Committee is aware, the government has not met its contracting goal of 5% to women owned businesses. We believe that the changes suggested in the bill will increase opportunities in federal contracting for all small businesses.

Thank you for your consideration of our views. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact WIPP's government affairs representative, Ann Sullivan, at (202) 626-8528.

Sincerely,

Barbara Kasoff
President