

Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives a report describing the joint statement of policy issued under subsection (b), with such findings and recommendations as the Secretaries consider appropriate.”

§ 8502. Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is a Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

(b) COMPOSITION.—The Committee consists of 15 members appointed by the President as follows:

(1) One officer or employee from each of the following, nominated by the head of the department or agency:

- (A) The Department of Agriculture.
- (B) The Department of Defense.
- (C) The Department of the Army.
- (D) The Department of the Navy.
- (E) The Department of the Air Force.
- (F) The Department of Education.
- (G) The Department of Commerce.
- (H) The Department of Veterans Affairs.
- (I) The Department of Justice.
- (J) The Department of Labor.
- (K) The General Services Administration.

(2) One member from individuals who are not officers or employees of the Federal Government and who are conversant with the problems incident to the employment of the blind.

(3) One member from individuals who are not officers or employees of the Federal Government and who are conversant with the problems incident to the employment of other severely disabled individuals.

(4) One member from individuals who are not officers or employees of the Federal Government and who represent blind individuals employed in qualified nonprofit agencies for the blind.

(5) One member from individuals who are not officers or employees of the Federal Government and who represent severely disabled individuals (other than blind individuals) employed in qualified nonprofit agencies for other severely disabled individuals.

(c) TERMS OF OFFICE.—Members appointed under paragraph (2), (3), (4), or (5) of subsection (b) shall be appointed for terms of 5 years and may be reappointed if the member meets the qualifications prescribed by those paragraphs.

(d) CHAIRMAN.—The members of the Committee shall elect one of the members to be Chairman.

(e) VACANCY.—

(1) MANNER IN WHICH FILLED.—A vacancy in the membership of the Committee shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

(2) UNFULFILLED TERM.—A member appointed under paragraph (2), (3), (4), or (5) of subsection (b) to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which the predecessor was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of the term. The member may serve after the expiration of a term until a successor takes office.

(f) PAY AND TRAVEL EXPENSES.—

(1) AMOUNT TO WHICH MEMBERS ARE ENTITLED.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), members of the Committee are entitled to receive the daily equivalent of the maximum annual rate of basic pay payable for level IV of the Executive Schedule for each day (including travel-time) during which they perform services for the Committee. A member is entitled to travel expenses, including a per diem allowance instead of subsistence, as provided under section 5703 of title 5.

(2) OFFICERS OR EMPLOYEES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—Members who are officers or employees of the Federal Government may not receive additional pay because of their service on the Committee.

(g) STAFF.—

(1) APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION.—Subject to rules the Committee may adopt and to chapters 33 and 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, the Chairman may appoint and fix the pay of personnel the Committee determines are necessary to assist it in carrying out this chapter.

(2) PERSONNEL FROM OTHER ENTITIES.—On request of the Committee, the head of an entity of the Federal Government may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any personnel of the entity to the Committee to assist it in carrying out this chapter.

(h) OBTAINING OFFICIAL INFORMATION.—The Committee may secure directly from an entity of the Federal Government information necessary to enable it to carry out this chapter. On request of the Chairman, the head of the entity shall furnish the information to the Committee.

(i) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—The Administrator of General Services shall provide to the Committee, on a reimbursable basis, administrative support services the Committee requests.

(j) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than December 31 of each year, the Committee shall transmit to the President a report that includes the names of the Committee members serving in the prior fiscal year, the dates of Committee meetings in that year, a description of the activities of the Committee under this chapter in that year, and any recommendations for changes in this chapter which the Committee determines are necessary.

(Pub. L. 111-350, §3, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3835.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
8502(a), (b)	41:46(a) (less words in parentheses before par. (1)).	June 25, 1938, ch. 697, §1 (less (a) (words in parentheses before par. (1))), 52 Stat. 1196; Pub. L. 92-28, §1, June 23, 1971, 85 Stat. 77; Pub. L. 93-358, §1(1), (2), July 25, 1974, 88 Stat. 392; Pub. L. 94-273, §8(2), Apr. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 378; Pub. L. 102-54, §13(p), June 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 278; Pub. L. 102-569, title IX, §911(a), Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4486; Pub. L. 103-73, title III, §301, Aug. 11, 1993, 107 Stat. 736.
8502(c)	41:46(d)(1), (2), (4).	
8502(d)	41:46(c).	
8502(e)(1)	41:46(b).	

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES—CONTINUED

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
8502(e)(2)	41:46(d)(3).	
8502(f)	41:46(e).	
8502(g)	41:46(f).	
8502(h)	41:46(g).	
8502(i)	41:46(h).	
8502(j)	41:46(i).	

In subsection (b)(1)(F), the words “Department of Education” are substituted for “Department of Health and Human Services” in 41:46(a)(1) to correct a mistake in the United States Code. In the amendment to the original provision by section 1 of Public Law 92-28 (85 Stat. 77), an officer or employee of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare was one of the members appointed to the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, because the Department, through the Rehabilitation Services Administration, had the major governmental function in the field of vocational rehabilitation for the blind and other severely handicapped and administered related vocational rehabilitation programs for individuals with disabilities. See House Report 92-228. Under section 301(a)(4)(A) and (C) and (b)(3) of the Department of Education Organization Act (20:3441(a)(4)(A) and (C) and (b)(3)), the functions and offices of the Department and the functions of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare and the Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services were transferred to the Department or Secretary of Education. Section 509 of the Act (20:3508) redesignated the Department and Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare as the Department and Secretary of Health and Human Services, respectively, and provided that references to the Department and Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare were deemed to be references to the Department or Secretary of Health and Human Services except to the extent a reference was to a function of the Department or Secretary of Education. The reference in 41:46(a)(1) was changed to “Department of Health and Human Services” but should have been changed to “Department of Education”. Furthermore, the regulations of the Committee include the Department of Education in the list of members of the Committee. See 41 CFR 51-2.1.

In subsection (c), the text of 41:46(d)(2) and (4) is omitted as obsolete.

In subsection (f)(1), the reference to section 5376 of title 5 is substituted for the reference to grade GS-18 of the General Schedule because of section 529 [title I, §101(c)(1)] of the Treasury, Postal Service and General Government Appropriations Act, 1991 (Public Law 101-509, 104 Stat. 1442, 5 U.S.C. 5376 note). The word “actual” is omitted as unnecessary. The words “A member is entitled to travel expenses, including a per diem allowance instead of subsistence, as provided under section 5703 of title 5” are substituted for 41:46(e)(3) to eliminate unnecessary words. The reference to section 5703 of title 5 is substituted for the reference to section 5703(b) of title 5 because of the amendment to section 5703 by section 4 of the Travel Expense Amendments Act of 1975 (Public Law 94-22, 89 Stat. 85).

In subsection (g), the words “its duties and powers” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (g)(1), the reference to chapter 33 of title 5 is substituted for “the provisions of title 5 governing appointments in the competitive service” for clarity and for consistency with other titles of the United States Code. The words “relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates” are omitted as unnecessary.

In subsection (j), the words “and to the Congress” are omitted pursuant to section 3003 of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note). See, also, page 199 of House Document No. 103-7.

SENATE REVISION AMENDMENT

In subsec. (f)(1), “for level IV of the Executive Schedule” substituted for “under section 5376 of title 5” by

S. Amdt. 4726 (111th Cong.). See 156 Cong. Rec. S8442, Dec. 2, 2010 (daily ed.).

§ 8503. Duties and powers of the Committee

(a) PROCUREMENT LIST.—

(1) MAINTENANCE OF LIST.—The Committee shall maintain and publish in the Federal Register a procurement list. The list shall include the following products and services determined by the Committee to be suitable for the Federal Government to procure pursuant to this chapter:

- (A) Products produced by a qualified nonprofit agency for the blind or by a qualified nonprofit agency for other severely disabled.
- (B) The services those agencies provide.

(2) CHANGES TO LIST.—The Committee may, by rule made in accordance with the requirements of section 553(b) to (e) of title 5, add to and remove from the procurement list products so produced and services so provided.

(b) FAIR MARKET PRICE.—The Committee shall determine the fair market price of products and services contained on the procurement list that are offered for sale to the Federal Government by a qualified nonprofit agency for the blind or a qualified nonprofit agency for other severely disabled. The Committee from time to time shall revise its price determinations with respect to those products and services in accordance with changing market conditions.

(c) CENTRAL NONPROFIT AGENCY OR AGENCIES.—The Committee shall designate a central nonprofit agency or agencies to facilitate the distribution, by direct allocation, subcontract, or any other means, of orders of the Federal Government for products and services on the procurement list among qualified nonprofit agencies for the blind or qualified nonprofit agencies for other severely disabled.

(d) REGULATIONS.—The Committee—

(1) may prescribe regulations regarding specifications for products and services on the procurement list, the time of their delivery, and other matters as necessary to carry out this chapter; and

(2) shall prescribe regulations providing that when the Federal Government purchases products produced and offered for sale by qualified nonprofit agencies for the blind or qualified nonprofit agencies for other severely disabled, priority shall be given to products produced and offered for sale by qualified nonprofit agencies for the blind.

(e) STUDY AND EVALUATION OF ACTIVITIES.—The Committee shall make a continuing study and evaluation of its activities under this chapter to ensure effective and efficient administration of this chapter. The Committee on its own or in cooperation with other public or nonprofit private agencies may study—

(1) problems related to the employment of the blind and other severely disabled individuals; and

(2) the development and adaptation of production methods that would enable a greater utilization of the blind and other severely disabled individuals.

(Pub. L. 111-350, §3, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3836.)