AbilityOne®

Advisory Committee on Increasing Competitive Integrated Employment for Individuals with Disabilities

8th Meeting, April 27-28, 2016
Recommendation #1:

Congress should amend the Javits-Wagner-O’Day Act (JWOD) to fully align the Act with modern Federal disability law and policy goals, including the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Supreme Court’s Olmstead decision, and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.
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Recommendation #2:

Congress should amend the JWOD Act to include provisions that competitive integrated employment be a stated goal of participation in the AbilityOne® Program.
Recommendation #3:

*Congress should amend the JWOD Act to establish new criteria for who is eligible to work on AbilityOne® contracts.*
Recommendation #4: Congress should amend the JWOD Act to revise the process for procurement selection.
Recommendation #5:

Congress should direct and facilitate, through any necessary funding, for Ability One to conduct research identifying resources of available data at the State and Federal level establishing Ability One’s compliance to established thresholds for the hiring of individuals who are blind or significantly disabled. Once identified, Congress should direct the state and/or local entities possessing this data to share this data with Ability One for these purposes. Where necessary, these agencies should amend or modify their internal rules for data sharing for this specific purpose, so long as the data transfer is compliant with established state and/or federal disclosure laws.
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Recommendation #6:

Congress should fund and charge the Department of Labor to contract an independent third party evaluation tasked with studying the implementation of the recommendations submitted by the ACICIEID. Further, the third party should submit a report that identifies and recommends additional policies that may be required in order to implement the changes necessary to reform the JWOD Act as indicated above. This evaluation should be completed within a pre-set time frame and should solicit the input from various AbilityOne® stakeholders and knowledgeable experts.