



# ***STATEMENT***

## **PRESS OFFICE**

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### **SBA ADMINISTRATOR HECTOR V. BARRETO'S STATEMENT ON ADMINISTRATION'S STRATEGY FOR UNBUNDLING GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS**

#### ***Recommendations Will Lead To More Business Opportunities For America's Small Businesses and Their Employees***

“Contract bundling does not work for small businesses that compete for federal contracts or for the American taxpayer. For example, when you take 15 separate contracts and bundle them together into one, only large businesses can afford to bid on it, shutting out potentially 15 small businesses from the process. The lack of competition means taxpayers don't get the best value for their dollar, and small businesses and their employees suffer. In most cases, it's not the most effective or efficient way to go about contracting.

“Under President George W. Bush's leadership, this contract bundling task force, of which the SBA was a proud participant, has made far-reaching recommendations that go further than any administration has before on behalf of small businesses. They reflect the President's commitment to resolving this issue and recognize that something has to be done to help ensure that small businesses have fair and open access to federal contracts.

“The Administration, through the recommendations in this report, has sent a clear message to senior agency managers across the government that they will be held accountable when they shut out small business from the contracting process by unfairly bundling contracts. Accountability is not only the report's first recommendation, it is the first and second recommendation.

“Leadership and accountability will make the difference for this nation's small businesses. By implementing these recommendations, a contracting environment will be created where small business owners will have the opportunity to succeed and achieve their dreams.”

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