

May 21, 2014

RE: Support Rep. Jenkins Amendment #135 to National Defense Authorization Act

Dear Representative,

TRSA supports the Jenkins (KS) Amendment #135 on H.R. 4435, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2015.

TRSA represents a \$16-billion industry employing nearly 200,000 people at more than 1,500 facilities nationwide. These independent and national companies provide laundered, reusable textiles and other products and services that help businesses project a clean and attractive public image. The industry reaches every major business and industrial region and municipality in the country. Most Americans benefit at least once a week from the cleanliness and safety provided by the industry—through its laundering and delivery of reusable linens, uniforms, towels, floor mats and other products for the healthcare, hospitality and industrial/manufacturing sectors. TRSA member companies' services minimize environmental impacts on air, water and solid waste disposal while reducing costs for millions of customers.

Government workers cost more per hour than private sector employees.

In 2012, the Congressional Budget Office found that “[o]n average for workers at all education levels, benefits for federal employees cost about \$20 per hour worked, whereas benefits for private-sector employees cost \$14, CBO estimates. Thus, benefits for federal workers cost 48 percent more per hour worked, on average, than benefits for private sector workers with similar attributes. Benefits also constituted a larger share of compensation for federal workers, accounting for 39 percent of the cost of total compensation, compared with 30 percent in the private sector.”

In its 1996 examination of the issue, the Center for Naval Analyses likewise found benefits of competing work. The visibility and identification of alternate providers were beneficial aspects of the process identified by the Center. As a bottom line, the Center for Naval Analyses determined a 30% average savings resulted from this beneficial focus on competition, with savings persisting over time.

A leaner, more efficient government is a worthy goal, and Rep. Jenkins (KS) Amendment #135 is a means to achieve this goal.

Please vote FOR Jenkins (KS) amendment #135 to H.R. 4435.

Thank you,



Kevin D. Schwalb
Vice President, Government Affairs