

# WCOE LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY POLICY SUMMARY

January 2022

Note: The Legislative Committee and National Board review WCOE policy positions annually, but adopting new policies as needed during the year. Policy positions are not the same as legislative priorities for any given year and are not automatically included on the WCOE Washington Summit lobbying agenda. \* If there is no date for Board Adoption, policy was adopted before 2018.\*

**WCOE Core Legislative Mission:** Making a positive difference for women in the construction industry so there will come a time when gender ceases to be a business issue.

#### **General Federal Construction Contracting Policy**

WCOE supports reforms to federal contracting policy that will support the industry and women-owned construction companies, in particular, where such policies will address issues that affect the bottom line of WCOE members or will work to address factors that currently constrain successful growth of women-owned businesses.

Adopted: By Board June 2019

Revised:

#### **Mandate for Female Representation on Public Company Boards**

WCOE urges passage of a bill to mandate female representation on public company boards.

Adopted: By Board January 2019

Revised:

#### **Federal Prompt Pay**

WCOE supports improved compliance with the 1988 amendments to the Prompt Payment Act, "pay when paid" rules and supports more agency transparency about violations of these rules, emphasizing there is no expectation that prime contractors' obligations to pay subcontractors falls to the federal government.

Adopted: By Board June 2018

Revised:

## Agency Policy and Procedures for Payment for Change Orders

WCOE supports changes to the Anti-Deficiency Act to help ensure small businesses get paid in a timely manner for change orders requested by the federal government agency.

Adopted: By Board June 2018 June

Revised:

#### Fund Infrastructure Project That Will Make America Competitive Again

WCOE urges Congress to fund an infrastructure bill with greater direct federal assistance.

Adopted: By Board\*

Revised:

\$1.8 trillion Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act signed into Public Law 117-58 Infrastructure investment & implementation will continue to be WCOE policy issue.



### Women's Pay Equity: Equal Pay for Equal Work

WCOE supports paycheck fairness.

Adopted: By Board\*

Revised:

#### **Construction of the National Women's History Museum (NWHM)**

WCOE supports the building of a National Women's History Museum

Adopted: By Board\*

Retired: 2020 – 12/27/2020 Became Public Law No: 116-260 Consolidated Appropriations

#### **Passage of the Equal Rights Amendment**

WCOE supports the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Adopted: By Board\*

Revised:

#### WCOE REGULATORY AGENDA SUMMARY

January 2022

# <u>Support Creation of SBA "Mandatory Consideration" Pilot Program for Women-Owned</u> <u>Small Businesses</u>

WCOE recommendation: SBA work with GSA and ACE for a "Mandatory Consideration" Pilot Program for Women-Owned Small Business firms.

Adopted: By Board January 2019

Revised:

### Support Steps to Eliminate Barriers for Inclusion of WBEs in Government Contracting

WCOE recommendation: A uniform set of guidelines be established for the conduct of disparity studies that includes reaching out to groups such as WCOE.

Adopted: By Board\*

Revised:

# **Continue Support of DOT's DBE Program**

WCOE recommendation: All Transportation Authorization Bills should include a clarification that both disadvantaged minorities and women are to be included in the DBE participation goal by all recipients as a condition of funding.

Adopted: By Board\*

Revised:

WCOE

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#### **Support SBA Implementation of WOSB Certification Program**

WCOE recommendation: SBA should move quickly to design, implement and finalize its certification program as required by Congress so that there is a federal agency, a state or local government certifying agency, or a national certifying entity. WCOE recommends using the standards of the Department of Transportation certification program as a basis for that review and certification and supports full and expeditious implementation.

Adopted: By Board\*

Revised/Approved: By Board January 2019

July 30, 2020/ the Small Business Act as amended within the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015,

Public Law 113-291

Revised: August 2020 to support full implementation of law

#### **Support Promotion of WOSB/EDWOSB Procurement Set Aside Program**

WCOE recommendation:

- SBA establish Education and Awareness Training for Contracting Officers to encourage the use of the program in construction procurement and promote opportunities;
- SBA publish the number and value of contracts awarded to WOSBs and EDWOSBs on a quarterly basis for all construction NAICS Codes.

Adopted: By Board\*

Revised: