



U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



July 31, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1705 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Extension and Funding of Section 3610**

Dear Congressional Leaders:

As consideration continues on relief efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we offer our support and gratitude for the inclusion of funding in the Senate Republican proposal to cover costs related to the implementation of Section 3610 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Public Law 116-136). Nonetheless, while the proposal answered the calls for additional funding through Fiscal Year 2021 for the Department of Defense (DoD) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), it did not include the extension of the authority in Section 3610 beyond September 30, 2020, that is necessary to ensure the continuity of operations across the government as the pandemic continues. On behalf of our members, we respectfully ask that the authorities granted by Section 3610 be extended in the final bill to December 31, 2021, for all covered agencies.

Section 3610 of the CARES Act authorizes the reimbursement of extraordinary and unanticipated government contractor costs arising from COVID-19. The provision is necessary to maintain in a “ready state” the strong human capital and industrial base required for the continuity of government operations during this national emergency. The authority granted under Section 3610 is currently set to expire on September 30, 2020. Since the enactment of the CARES Act in March, however, it has become

clear that the rationale for the section still exists and will continue to exist into the next fiscal year. Private sector firms supporting critical government agency missions continue to face the same “ready state” workforce sustainment challenges that justified the enactment of Section 3610 and the provision of funding in the current Senate proposed legislation. It is for this reason that we ask you to add an extension of the authority established under Section 3610 of the CARES Act through 2021. Such an extension would support the continuity of government operations through the COVID-19 national emergency while preserving the ability of the private sector to maintain its capability to fully support agency missions into the future. We appreciate your consideration of our request. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss further, please contact either Kea Matory at [kmatory@NDIA.org](mailto:kmatory@NDIA.org) or Timothy Cook at [tcook@thecpagroup.org](mailto:tcook@thecpagroup.org).

Sincerely,

AFCEA International  
Associated General Contractors of America (AGC)  
CompTIA  
The Center for Procurement Advocacy (CPA)  
Intelligence and National Security Alliance (INSA)  
National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA)  
Professional Services Council (PSC)  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce