



The Federal government has 1.6 million employees (executive branch, non-Postal, full-time, permanent).

More than half – some 850,000 of those employees – are in jobs that are “commercial” in nature.

The Obama budget will require the hiring of an additional 250,000 new government employees.

Only a handful of the 850,000 current commercial positions have been studied to determine whether government employees or private sector workers can perform these activities more effectively.

Not only do Federal agencies duplicate the private business, but many engage in unfair government competition with the private sector. Each time there has been a White House Conference on Small Business, one of the top issues identified by American entrepreneurs is unfair government-sponsored competition with the private sector.

Representative John J. “Jimmy” Duncan, Jr. (R-TN) and Senator John Thune (R-SD) will soon introduce the “Freedom from Government Competition Act” (FFGCA). This bill will codify a “Yellow Pages” test. That is a simple test that has been applied by Mayors and Governors, both Democrat and Republican, that says if you can find firms in the Yellow Pages providing products or services that the government is also providing, then the service should be subject to market competition to break up the government monopoly and prove a better value to the taxpayer.

This bill will not only make government smaller and more efficient, but it can save up to \$28 billion.

FFGCA does not mandate privatization. It does, however, provide for a process to review every commercial activity in the government. It preserves those activities that are inherently governmental (those only the government should do), injects competition into those that are commercial in nature, and provides several options for the Executive Branch to implement that competition. It implements a Yellow Pages test to make certain government is not unfairly competing with small business and to assure that products and services are provided at the best value to the taxpayer.

Join us in supporting FFGCA and lining up co-sponsors. Contact Adrian M. Arnakis on Sen. Thune’s staff (202) 224-2321 or Don Walker on Rep. Duncan’s staff (202) 225-5435.

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