To amend the Small Business Act to require contracting officers to take a small business concern's past performance as part of a joint venture into account when evaluating the small business concern, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. HAGEDORN (for himself and Mr. EVANS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to require contracting officers to take a small business concern's past performance as part of a joint venture into account when evaluating the small business concern, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
4 This Act may be cited as the “Unlocking Opportunities for Small Businesses Act of 2019”.

(Original Signature of Member)
SEC. 2. PAST PERFORMANCE RATINGS OF JOINT VENTURES FOR SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.

(a) In General.—Section 15(e) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(5) PAST PERFORMANCE RATINGS OF JOINT VENTURES FOR SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.—With respect to evaluating an offer for a prime contract made by a small business concern that previously participated in a joint venture with another business concern (whether or not such other business concern was itself a small business concern), the Administrator shall establish regulations—

"(A) requiring contracting officers to consider the record of past performance of the joint venture when evaluating the past performance of the small business concern; and

"(B) requiring the small business concern to inform the contracting officer what duties and responsibilities the small business concern carried out as part of the joint venture."

SEC. 3. PAST PERFORMANCE RATINGS OF FIRST-TIER SMALL BUSINESS SUBCONTRACTORS.

Section 8(d)(17) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(17)) is amended to read as follows:
"(17) Past performance ratings for certain small business subcontractors.—

"(A) In general.—Upon request by a small business concern that performed as a first tier subcontractor on a covered contract (as defined in paragraph 13(A)) that is submitting an offer for a solicitation, the prime contractor for such covered contract shall submit to the contracting agency issuing the solicitation or to such small business concern a record of past performance for such small business concern with respect to such covered contract.

"(B) Consideration.—A contracting officer shall consider the record of past performance of a small business concern provided under subparagraph (A) when evaluating an offer for a prime contract made by such small business concern."

SEC. 4. RULEMAKING.

(a) SBA Rules.—Not later than the end of the 120-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue rules to carry out this Act and the amendments made by this Act.
(b) **FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION.**—Not later than the end of the 120-day period beginning on the date that rules are issued under paragraph (1), the Federal Acquisition Regulation shall be revised to reflect such rules.