



February 3, 2017

United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA), the sole national association representing all segments of the 8 million jobs the U.S. lodging industry supports, including hotel owners, REITs, chains, franchisees, management companies, independent properties, bed and breakfasts, state hotel associations, and industry suppliers, I urge you to support S.J. Res. 12, a joint resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act (CRA) to invalidate the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council regulations implementing the Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces Executive Order (EO) issued by President Obama on July 13, 2014.

The Obama administration's Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces Executive Order, otherwise known as the "blacklisting" rule, would have prohibited qualified contractors - including hoteliers - from providing services to federal agencies based solely upon accusations of wrongdoing under federal law. Further, the "blacklisting" regulation would inhibit a federal contractor's ability to counter any alleged violations and would treat non-adjudicated claims the same as those that have been determined to be based in fact.

The lodging industry strongly supports efforts to ensure that the federal government contracts only with responsible companies. However, the Obama Administration's "blacklisting" regulation not only circumvents Congressional authority, but also strips businesses of their due-process rights while simultaneously increasing costs to the American taxpayer.

AHLA and its member companies, many of whom provide valuable services to the federal government, urge you to vote YES on S.J. Res. 12 to halt the shortsighted "blacklisting" regulation. Termination of this regulation will provide businesses with fair and open competition when bidding on federal government contracts while also protecting the federal government's bottom line.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Crawford", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brian C. Crawford  
Vice President, Government & Political Affairs