NEW RULES FOR CONTRACTORS

Foodservice contractors who do business with the federal government may be subjected to tough new standards for "integrity and business ethics" if Congress approves legislation introduced in the House by Rep. Albert Wynn (D-MD).

Under the proposal, federal agencies would be barred from issuing contracts to companies lacking "a record of satisfactory compliance with the law, including tax, labor and employment, environmental, antitrust and consumer protection laws."

All info considered: Government contracting officers would be required to consider "all relevant credible information" about a prospective contractor, including both civil and criminal convictions or indictments.

The bill offers no "statute of limitations" on past offenses by contractors, but would direct federal agencies to "give the greatest weight to any violations of law" that have been adjudicated within the past three years.

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