

PSC Still Worried About Defense Insourcing

BY TOM SPOTH

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Stan Soloway and Alan Chvotkin over at the Professional Services Council expressed their displeasure with Defense Department insourcing efforts in a May letter to Defense Secretary Robert Gates. Recent congressional attention to the issue hasn't done much to assuage their concerns.

In a conference call with reporters this morning to discuss the Senate and House versions of the 2011 defense authorization bill, Soloway and Chvotkin said PSC supports an amendment by Rep. Jim Langevin that would prohibit DoD from setting quotas for its insourcing efforts.

However, two other amendments passed by the House seem to conflict with the Langevin amendment, Soloway said. One, proposed by Rep. John Sarbanes, would institutionalize a preference for insourcing; the other, from Rep. Tom Perriello, would forbid DoD from giving firms credit if their benefits costs are lower than the government's, Soloway said.

Soloway complained that the amendments were passed "with little discussion or debate" and that acquisition issues are receiving insignificant attention from Congress during the defense budget process. The Senate still hasn't passed its version of the authorization bill, so the final impact on defense acquisition remains to be seen.