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The purpose of the discussion below is to advise contractors which are subject to the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act or the Service Contract Act of the principal provisions of these acts.

AL H-HEALEY PUBLIC CONTRACTS ACT

General Provisions—This act applies to contracts which exceed or may exceed \$10,000 entered into by any agency or instrumentality of the United States for the manufacture or furnishing of materials, supplies, articles, or equipment. The act establishes minimum wage, maximum hours, and safety and health standards for work on such contracts, and prohibits the employment on contract work of convict labor (unless certain conditions are met) and children under 16 years of age. The employment of homeworkers (except homeworkers with disabilities employed under the provisions of Regulations, 29 CFR Part 525) on a covered contract is not permitted.

In addition to its coverage of prime contractors, the act under certain circumstances applies to secondary contractors performing work under contracts awarded by the Government prime contractor.

All provisions of the act except the safety and health requirements are administered by the Wage and Hour Division.

Minimum Wage—Covered employees must currently be paid not less than the Federal minimum wage established in section 6(a)(1) of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Overtime—Covered workers must be paid at least one and one-half times their basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 a week. Overtime is due on the basis of the total hours spent in all work, Government and non-Government, performed by the employee in any week in which covered work is performed.

Child Labor—Employers may protect themselves against unintentional child labor violations by obtaining certificates of age. State employment or age certificates are acceptable.

Safety and Health—No covered work may be performed in plants, factories, buildings, or surroundings or under work conditions that are unsanitary or hazardous or dangerous to the health and safety of the employees engaged in the performance of the contract. The safety and health provisions of the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act are administered by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

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