SEC. 844. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF CERTAIN SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS IN CONTRACTS AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Department of Defense shall, to the maximum extent possible, consider the participation of small business concerns owned and controlled by women, small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans (as such terms are defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632), and small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (as defined in section 8(d)(3)(C) of such Act) in awarding contracts.

(b) REPORT.—The Secretary of the Department of Defense shall submit an annual report to Congress containing statistics describing the number of contracts awarded during the year to small business concerns owned and controlled by women, small business concerns owned...
and controlled by veterans, and small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically dis-
advantaged individuals.