

Virginia Movers & Warehouseman's Association; P.O. Box 206; Concord, Virginia 24538

March 1, 2025

Dear Members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation,

On behalf of the **Virginia Movers & Warehouseman's Association** and our 175 members, we respectfully urge you to help **pause implementation of the Global Household Goods Contract (GHC)** until the Government Accountability Office (GAO) has completed its report with findings and recommendations. Given the significant concerns raised about the program's impact on both military families and the nation's moving industry, a smooth and effective transition is essential before full implementation.

We greatly appreciate Senator Warner for <u>highlighting these concerns in his letter</u> to TRANSCOM Commander General Randall Reed, and we look forward to working with the entire delegation to ensure that military families receive the most efficient moving services possible.

For 73 years, the Virginia Movers Association has served as the state's leading moving industry organization. As you know, Virginia is home to 20 major military installations representing all branches of our nation's armed forces, and our members play a crucial role in providing our service members and their families seamless Permanent Change of Station (PCS) moves as they relocate to and from the state. The ability to depend on an efficient and accountable moving system is critical to military readiness and the well-being of our service members.

While the GHC was intended to improve military relocations, its implementation has encountered significant operational and financial challenges. Far too many military families have faced delays, difficulties tracking their shipments, and added stress during an already demanding process. Likewise, many of Virginia's moving and storage companies — which have provided reliable service to the military for decades — are experiencing substantial reductions in revenue and logistical hurdles that jeopardize their ability to continue serving military families effectively.

Under the previous Defense Personal Property Program (DP3) program, TRANSCOM has had the ability to evaluate rates and consider quality service scores when awarding jobs. However, under the GHC, companies are facing a lack of transparency, increased liability, and new regulatory requirements that make continued participation increasingly difficult. Additionally, the application of the Service Contract Act for the first time in the program's history adds further uncertainty and potential financial strain. Most concerning, we are hearing widespread reports from service members who have encountered serious difficulties with their relocations under the GHC, including shipments that have been delayed, misplaced, or gone entirely unaccounted for. Given these challenges, we believe that continuing the GHC implementation before the GAO study is complete would be a disservice to our military families.

Last year, Congress directed the GAO to assess the program as part of the NDAA. However, the GHC moved forward before the study could be completed, preventing key stakeholders from fully understanding its potential consequences. **We urge you to take action to ensure that the**

GHC transition is handled in a way that protects both military families and the small businesses that serve them.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter further and appreciate your consideration.

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The signatures of the VMWA's Leadership Team:

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