



## **Jeffrey A. Koses and Chai R. Feldblum Re-Elected to Lead U.S. AbilityOne Commission**

WASHINGTON, D.C., February 13, 2023 – At an executive session of the U.S. AbilityOne Commission today, Jeffrey A. Koses and Chai R. Feldblum were unanimously re-elected to the respective leadership positions of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. They will hold the positions for two years.

“I am honored to have once again been entrusted with the position of Commission Chairperson,” Koses said. “I am committed to continuing to work with my fellow Commission members and the Commission staff to modernize the AbilityOne Program and expand quality employment opportunities across all economic sectors for people who are blind or have significant disabilities.”

Feldblum said, “I look forward to continuing the Commission’s progress in transforming the AbilityOne Program. All of us, collectively and individually, are tasked with the important work of increasing employment opportunities for people who are blind or have significant disabilities and ensuring that such individuals have good, solid jobs in our economy.”

Among other actions Koses and Feldblum have overseen, the Commission [issued a final rule](#) that prohibits payment of subminimum wages on contracts within the AbilityOne Program – a step that eliminated a longstanding area of concern among stakeholders and the disability community. More recently, the agency has begun [modernizing its compliance program](#) in accordance with its [FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan](#).

Koses was first elected as Chairperson in February 2021, after serving as Interim Chairperson since October 2020. He is the Senior Procurement Executive for the General Services Administration (GSA), recognized as an innovative leader in the field of acquisition. He was appointed to serve as the Commission’s GSA representative in 2019.

Feldblum was first elected Vice Chairperson in September 2021. A national expert in disability law and employment, she was appointed earlier that year to serve as one of the Commission’s four private citizen members, who represent the employment concerns of people who are blind or have significant disabilities.

Fuller biographies of Koses and Feldblum can be found on the Commission’s [Presidential Appointees webpage](#).



### **About the U.S. AbilityOne Commission**

The AbilityOne Program is administered by the U.S. AbilityOne Commission, the operating name of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled. The Commission is an independent Federal agency composed of 15 Presidential appointees: 11 represent Federal agencies, and four serve as private citizens who are knowledgeable about employment barriers facing people who are blind or have significant disabilities.

### **About the AbilityOne Program**

The AbilityOne Program facilitates the use of government procurement to provide employment in the United States for people who are blind or have significant disabilities. More than 36,000 individuals, including more than 2,500 veterans, are employed nationwide at approximately 450 nonprofit agencies from Maine to Guam. AbilityOne provided nearly \$4 billion in products and services to approximately 40 Federal government agencies in FY 2022.

