

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2109

AN ACT

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in awarding a contract for the procurement of goods or services, to give a preference to offerors that employ veterans.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Boosting Rates of
3 American Veteran Employment Act” or the “BRAVE
4 Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. PREFERENCE FOR OFFERORS EMPLOYING VET-
6 ERANS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 81 of
8 title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding after
9 section 8128 the following new section:

10 **“§ 8129. Preference for offerors employing veterans**

11 “(a) PREFERENCE.—In awarding a contract for the
12 procurement of goods or services, the Secretary may give
13 a preference to offerors that employ veterans on a full-
14 time basis. The Secretary shall determine such preference
15 based on the percentage of the full-time employees of the
16 offeror who are veterans.

17 “(b) ENFORCEMENT PENALTIES FOR MISREPRESEN-
18 TATION.—(1) Any offeror that is determined by the Sec-
19 retary to have willfully and intentionally misrepresented
20 the veteran status of the employees of the offeror for pur-
21 poses of subsection (a) may be debarred from contracting
22 with the Department for a period of not less than 5 years.

23 “(2) If the Secretary carries out a debarment under
24 paragraph (1), the Secretary shall commence debarment
25 action against the offeror by not later than 30 days after
26 determining that the offeror willfully and intentionally

1 misrepresented the veteran status of the employees of the
2 offeror as described in paragraph (1) and shall complete
3 debarment actions against such offeror by not later than
4 90 days after such determination.

5 “(3) The debarment of an offeror under paragraph
6 (1) includes the debarment of all principals in the offeror
7 for a period of not less than 5 years.”.

8 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
9 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
10 after the item relating to section 8128 the following new
11 item:

“8129. Preference for offerors employing veterans.”.

Passed the House of Representatives June 24, 2019.

Attest:

Clerk.

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