

## Union Calendar No. 86

116<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 2109

[Report No. 116-117]

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.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 4, 2019

Miss RICE of New York (for herself and Mr. COOK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

JUNE 18, 2019

Additional sponsors: Mr. HECK, Mr. CISNEROS, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, and Mr. FITZPATRICK

JUNE 18, 2019

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

# **A BILL**

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

7 **SEC. 2. PREFERENCE FOR OFFERORS EMPLOYING VET-**  
8 **ERANS.**

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

12 **“§ 8129. Preference for offerors employing veterans**

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

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

1       “(2) If the Secretary carries out a debarment under  
2 paragraph (1), the Secretary shall commence debarment  
3 action against the offeror by not later than 30 days after  
4 determining that the offeror willfully and intentionally  
5 misrepresented the veteran status of the employees of the  
6 offeror as described in paragraph (1) and shall complete  
7 debarment actions against such offeror by not later than  
8 90 days after such determination.

9       “(3) The debarment of an offeror under paragraph  
10 (1) includes the debarment of all principals in the offeror  
11 for a period of not less than five years.”.

12       (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
13 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting  
14 after the item relating to section 8128 the following new  
15 item:

“8129. Preference for offerors employing veterans.”.



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