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(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.**

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

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

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**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”.

1 **SEC. 2. PREFERENCE FOR OFFERORS EMPLOYING VET-**  
2 **ERANS.**

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

6 **“§ 8129. Preference for offerors employing veterans**

7 “(a) PREFERENCE.—In awarding a contract for the  
8 procurement of goods or services, the Secretary may give  
9 a preference to offerors that employ veterans. The Sec-  
10 retary shall determine such preference based on the per-  
11 centage of the employees of the offeror who are veterans.

12 “(b) ENFORCEMENT PENALTIES FOR MISREPRESENTATION.—(1) Any offeror that is determined by the Sec-  
13 retary to have willfully and intentionally misrepresented  
14 the veteran status of the employees of the offeror for pur-  
15 poses of subsection (a) shall be debarred from contracting  
16 with the Department for a period of not less than five  
17 years.

18 “(2) In the case of a debarment under paragraph (1),  
19 the Secretary shall commence debarment action against  
20 the offeror by not later than 30 days after determining  
21 that the offeror willfully and intentionally misrepresented  
22 the veteran status of the employees of the offeror as de-  
23 scribed in paragraph (1) and shall complete debarment ac-  
24 tions against such offeror by not later than 90 days after  
25 such determination.  
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1       “(3) The debarment of an offeror under paragraph  
2 (1) includes the debarment of all principals in the offeror  
3 for a period of not less than five years.”.

4       (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
5 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting  
6 after the item relating to section 8128 the following new  
7 item:

“8129. Preference for offerors employing veterans.”.