AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5620, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. CÁRDENAS OF CALIFORNIA

Page 54, after line 2, insert the following:

SEC. 11. VETERAN-FRIENDLY BUSINESS AWARDS.

(a) Authorization and Criteria for Award.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary of Labor (in this section referred to as the Secretary) and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly establish a program to award special recognition to employers for veteran-friendly employment practices and, in coordination with the Secretaries of Defense and Commerce, shall establish criteria for determining recipients of such awards.

(b) Recognition.—An award of recognition granted under the program established by the Secretary under this section shall be known as an Employment Salute Award.

(c) Eligibility.—

(1) Employer Defined.—As used in this section, the term “employer” means any person engaged in a business affecting commerce who has employees, but does not include the United States or any State or political subdivision of a State.
(2) CATEGORIES.—The Secretary shall establish different categories of employers eligible for the awards based on the size of the employers. Recognition shall be awarded separately for employers having from 1 to 50 employees, from 51 to 500 employees, and more than 500 employees.

(d) APPLICATION.—An employer seeking an award of recognition under this section shall provide the Secretary with an application at such time and containing such information as the Secretary shall require after establishing the criteria described in subsection (a).

(e) APPLICATION FEE AND FUNDING.—

(1) FEE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may assess a reasonable application fee on employers seeking such an award.

(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a separate account for the deposit of fees collected under this subsection to be known as the Employment Salute Award Fund.

(3) DEPOSIT.—The Secretary shall deposit any fees collected pursuant to paragraph (1) into the Fund established by paragraph (2).

(4) USE.—Amounts in the Employment Salute Award Fund shall be available to the Secretary, as
provided in paragraph (5), for making expenditures
to carry out the program established pursuant to
subsection (a).

(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
There is authorized to be appropriated from the Em-
ployment Salute Award Fund to the Secretary for
each fiscal year in which fees are collected under
this subsection an amount equal to the total amount
collected during the previous fiscal year from fees
assessed pursuant to this subsection. Such amounts
are authorized to remain available until expended.

(6) CREDITING AND AVAILABILITY OF FEES.—
Fees authorized under paragraph (1) shall be col-
clected and available for obligation only to the extent
and in the amount provided in advance in appropria-
tions Acts.

(f) PUBLICIZATION.—The Secretary shall publicize
the recipients of the award by listing such recipients in
a separate section on the Department of Labor’s website
and through such other methods as the Secretary may de-
termine.

(g) NO MONETARY AWARD.—An award granted
under a program established pursuant to subsection (a)
shall be for recognition only and not be monetary in nature.