SEC. 11. PREFERENCE FOR OFFERORS EMPLOYING VETERANS.

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

§ 8129. Preference for offerors employing veterans

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

“(b) ENFORCEMENT PENALTIES FOR MISREPRESENTATION.—(1) Any offeror that is determined by the Secretary to have willfully and intentionally misrepresented the veteran status of the employees of the offeror for purposes of subsection (a) shall be debarred from contracting with the Department for a period of not less than 5 years.

“(2) In the case of a debarment under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall commence debarment action against
the offeror by not later than 30 days after determining
that the offeror willfully and intentionally misrepresented
the veteran status of the employees of the offeror as de-
scribed in paragraph (1) and shall complete debarment ac-
tions against such offeror by not later than 90 days after
such determination.

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

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

“8129. Preference for offerors employing veterans.”.

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