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House District 18 - Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Muldoon, & Government Hill

House Joint Resolution 20

Encouraging the United States Congress to establish hiring goals for apprentices and veteran apprentices

Version A

April 7, 2025

Sponsor Statement

House Joint Resolution 20 urges the United States Congress to establish hiring goals for apprentices and veteran apprentices for U.S. Department of Defense construction projects. United States veterans and their families face immeasurable risks and sacrifices during their service to our country.

Members of our armed forces are put through the most rigorous training in the world. This ensures that all individuals that pass through it come out well-educated, highly trained, and strongly motivated. They learn discipline and a number of skills which make them highly valuable in the workforce.

In 2024, 65% of the unemployed veterans were age 18-54, meaning that the majority of unemployed veterans are in their prime working age. Veterans face many challenges when transitioning back into civilian life. Some of these challenges can be made easier by requiring hiring goals for certain Department of Defense projects. HJR 20 would encourage the U.S. Congress to establish a goal for the hiring of veterans who participate in qualified apprenticeship or postsecondary programs. This goal should be no less than 10 percent of the total workforce employed in the performance of the project.

Department of Defense construction projects offer a prime opportunity for veterans to further their careers while providing the DOD with qualified, mature, and motivated employees. It is our duty to take care of those who stood ready to defend this country.