

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to employment of veterans; creating s.  
 3           295.188, F.S.; authorizing private employers to  
 4           provide employment preference for certain persons;  
 5           providing an effective date.

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 7   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 9           Section 1.   Section 295.188, Florida Statutes, is created  
 10          to read:

11           295.188 Preference in hiring veterans for private  
 12          employers.-

13           (1) The Legislature intends to establish a permissive  
 14          preference in private employment for certain veterans.

15           (2) A private employer may adopt an employment policy that  
 16          gives preference in hiring to an honorably discharged veteran,  
 17          as defined in s. 1.01(14); the spouse of a veteran with a  
 18          service-connected disability, as described in s. 295.07(1)(b);  
 19          the unremarried widow or widower of a veteran who died of a  
 20          service-connected disability, as described in s. 295.07(1)(d);  
 21          or the unremarried widow or widower of a member of the United  
 22          States Armed Forces who died in the line of duty under combat-  
 23          related conditions. Such policy shall be applied uniformly to  
 24          employment decisions regarding hiring and promotion.

25           (3) These preferences are not considered violations of any  
 26          state or local equal employment opportunity law.

CS/HB 873

2014

27 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014. |