

## **H.R. 1089, as amended**

### **Veterans Employment Rights Realignment Act of 2009**

**Title:** To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the enforcement through the Office of Special Counsel of the employment and unemployment rights of veterans and members of the Armed Forces employed by Federal executive agencies, and for other purposes.

**Ms. Herseth Sandlin** of South Dakota introduced H.R. 1089 on March 19, 2009.

**H.R. 1089, as amended, would:**

1. Authorize the U.S. Office of Special Counsel (OSC) with exclusive jurisdiction to prosecute and investigate, all Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) complaints involving federal executive agencies;
2. Clarify that OSC has the same authority as the Department of Labor to conduct investigations and issue subpoenas when investigating USERRA complaints; and
3. Authorize such an individual to file a complaint with the Office Special Counsel. (Under current law, such individual may only file a complaint with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs).

**Effective Date:** The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to complaints filed on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

**Cost:** Preliminary cost estimate from CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1089 would cost \$14 million over a five-year period.

**Legislative History:**

- March 4, 2009: Legislative hearing held by the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
- March 19, 2009: Ordered reported, amended, by the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.
- May 6, 2009: Ordered reported, amended, by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.
- May 14, 2009: Reported, as amended, H. Rept. 111-111.
- May 19, 2009: Passed the House by the Yeas and Nays: 423-0 (Roll No. 270)