

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT  
FOR H.R. 1735  
OFFERED BY MS. ADAMS OF NORTH CAROLINA**

Page 302, after line 18, insert the following new section:

1 **SEC. 723. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING MENTAL**  
2 **HEALTH COUNSELING FOR MEMBERS OF THE**  
3 **ARMED FORCES AND FAMILIES.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

5 (1) It has been shown that some members of  
6 the Armed Forces struggle with post-traumatic  
7 stress and other behavioral health disorders from  
8 traumatic events experienced during combat.

9 (2) It has also been shown that emotional dis-  
10 tress and trauma from life events can be exacerbated  
11 by traumatic events experienced during combat.

12 (3) Members of the Armed Forces who struggle  
13 with post-traumatic stress and other behavioral  
14 health disorders are often unable to provide emo-  
15 tional support to spouses and children, causing emo-  
16 tional distress and the risk of behavioral health dis-  
17 orders among the dependents of the members.

1 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
2 gress that—

3 (1) the Department of Defense should continue  
4 to support members of the Armed Forces and their  
5 families by providing family counseling and indi-  
6 vidual counseling services that reduce the symptoms  
7 of post-traumatic stress and other behavioral health  
8 disorders and empowers members to be emotionally  
9 available to their spouses and children;

10 (2) such services should be readily available at  
11 branches of the Department and military bases;

12 (3) the Department should rely on industry  
13 standards established by the medical community  
14 when developing standards for their own practice of  
15 family and individual counseling; and

16 (4) the Department should conduct a five-year  
17 study of the progress of members of the Armed  
18 Forces that are treated for mental health disorders,  
19 including with respect to—

20 (A) difficulty keeping up with treatment;

21 (B) familial status before and after treat-  
22 ment; and

23 (C) access to mental health counseling at  
24 Department facilities and military installations.

