

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 114-51
OFFERED BY MS. LORETTA SANCHEZ OF
CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

1 **SEC. 12xx. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON MILITARY RELATIONS**
2 **BETWEEN VIETNAM AND THE UNITED**
3 **STATES.**

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

5 (1) The United States and Vietnam signed a
6 Joint Vision Statement on Defense Relations on
7 June 1, 2015.

8 (2) In October 2014, the Administration par-
9 tially relaxed United States restrictions on the trans-
10 fer of lethal weapons to Vietnam.

11 (3) In 2014, the United States provided
12 \$18,000,000 in maritime security assistance to Viet-
13 nam.

14 (4) Vietnam continues to harass, detain, and
15 imprison human rights activists.

16 (5) Vietnam is listed as “not free” in the 2016
17 “Freedom in the World” index, placing Vietnam in

1 the same category as countries such as Syria, China,
2 and Sudan.

3 (6) According to Reporters Without Borders,
4 Vietnam ranks 175 out of 180 countries in press
5 freedom, as the Government of Vietnam continues to
6 persecute citizens for practicing the freedom of
7 speech and expression.

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

10 (1) the United States Government should re-im-
11 pose restrictions on the transfer of lethal weapons to
12 Vietnam until the Government of Vietnam improves
13 its human rights record;

14 (2) the United States Government should re-
15 quire Vietnam to meet certain human rights bench-
16 marks before further expanding military relations;
17 and

18 (3) any increased military relations with Viet-
19 nam should be contingent on Vietnam's commitment
20 to implementing human rights reforms.

