AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 117–54
OFFERED BY MR. JACKSON OF TEXAS

At the appropriate place in subtitle C of title XII, insert the following:

SEC. _____. AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO
THE KURDISH PESHMERGA.

(a) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional com-
mittees” means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Com-
mittee on Intelligence of the House of Representa-
tives; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intel-
ligence of the Senate.

(b) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense is au-
thorized, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to
provide assistance, including training, equipment, sup-
plies, stipends, construction of training and associated fa-
cilities, and sustainment, to the Kurdish Peshmerga, in
coordination with the Government of Iraq, through December 31, 2023, for the following purposes:

(1) Defending Iraq from attacks by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), al-Qaeda, the Government of Iran, and terrorist organizations funded by the Government of Iran.

(2) Protecting the United States, friends and allies of the United States, and the Iraqi people from the threats posed by terrorist organizations and foreign adversaries.

(3) Training the forces of the Kurdish Peshmerga and building lasting and sustainable military capabilities.

(e) NOTICE BEFORE PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE.—Not later than 15 days before providing assistance to the Kurdish Peshmerga for the first time pursuant to subsection (b), the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall submit an unclassified report, with a classified annex, as appropriate, to the appropriate congressional committees and the leadership of the Senate and the House of Representatives and Senate that contains—

(1) a plan for providing such assistance; and

(2) a description of how such assistance fits within a larger regional strategy.
(d) **PLAN ELEMENTS.**—The plan required under subsection (c)(1) shall include a description of—

1. the goals and objectives of assistance to be provided pursuant to subsection (b);
2. the concept of operations, timelines, and types of training, equipment, stipends, sustainment, construction, and supplies to be provided under such plan;
3. the roles and contributions of partner nations;
4. any additional military support and sustainment activities; and
5. any other relevant details.

(e) **QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after the Secretary of Defense submits the report required under subsection (e), and every 90 days thereafter, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall submit a progress report to the appropriate congressional committees and the leadership of the Senate and the House of Representatives that includes, based on the most recent quarterly information—

1. any updates to or changes in the plan, strategy, vetting requirements and process, and end-use monitoring mechanisms and procedures since the submission of the previous report;
(2) a description of how the threat of attacks against United States or coalition personnel is being mitigated, statistics on any such attacks, and how such attacks are being mitigated;

(3) any misuse or loss of provided training and equipment and how such misuse or loss is being mitigated;

(4) an assessment of the operational effectiveness of the Kurdish Peshmerga, and any steps that have been taken to improve their effectiveness; and

(5) a description of sustainment support provided to the Kurdish Peshmerga.

(f) REPROGRAMMING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Defense may submit a reprogramming or transfer request of funds made available for Overseas Contingency Operations beginning on October 1, 2020, and ending on December 31, 2022, to the congressional defense committees to carry out activities authorized under this section.

(g) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Secretary of Defense may accept and retain contributions, including assistance in-kind, from foreign governments to provide assistance as authorized by this section. Any funds accepted by the Secretary under this subsection shall be credited to appropriations for the appropriate operation
and maintenance accounts, except that any such funds shall not be available for obligation until a reprogramming request is submitted to the congressional defense committees.

(h) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed—

(1) to constitute a specific statutory authorization for the introduction of United States Armed Forces into hostilities or into situations wherein hostilities are clearly indicated by the circumstances; or

(2) to supersede or alter the continuing obligations of the President to report to Congress pursuant to section 4 of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1543) regarding the use of United States Armed Forces abroad.