AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115–23

OFFERED BY MR. BEYER OF VIRGINIA

At the end of subtitle H of title XII of division A, add the following:

1 SEC. 1282. SUPPRESSION OF PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Turkey is a NATO ally and a partner in the fight against ISIL.

(2) Despite this close partnership, on May 16, 2017, Turkish security officials interfered with the First Amendment rights of United States citizens at a peaceful demonstration that occurred across the street from the Turkish ambassador’s residence.

(3) At least six armed Turkish security officials beat, kicked, and choked unarmed demonstrators.

(4) Two armed Turkish security officers were detained at the scene for physically assaulting Department of State Diplomatic Security Services officers.

(5) The Department of State did not request that Turkey waive the immunity for these two secu-
rity officers in order to fully investigate the assault
prior to their being released from custody.

(6) Immunity for diplomatic personnel and cer-
tain other foreign officials is a core principle, but so
is the right to demonstrate peacefully and freely in
the United States.

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

(1) the Turkish security officials who directed,
oversaw, or participated in the May 16, 2017, attack
acted in an egregious and brutal manner, reflecting
poorly on President Erdogan and the Government of
Turkey;

(2) any officials determined to have directed,
oversaw, or participated in the May 16, 2017, attack
should be charged and prosecuted under United
States law;

(3) the United States’ respect for free speech
requires officials of the United States to speak out
against such attack; and

(4) the United States should take steps to
strengthen free press and civil society activism in
countries such as Turkey, and combat efforts by for-
eign leaders to suppress free and peaceful dem-
onstrations in their own countries.
(c) **Visa Ban.**—

(1) **Determination.**—The Secretary of State shall conduct an investigation and issue a report regarding any foreign security officials involved in the suppression of peaceful demonstrations in the United States. Any such investigation shall be completed not later than 30 days after such suppression and shall include the following:

(A) A determination of foreign officials who participated in such suppression.

(B) A determination of the diplomatic status of such officials.

(C) An assessment of the impact of requesting a waiver of diplomatic immunity for such individuals.

(2) **Authority to Deny.**—The Secretary of State shall, notwithstanding any other provision of law, use the authority provided in accordance with section 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)) to deny or revoke the visa or other documentation with respect to any representative of a foreign government who is determined to have participated in conduct described in paragraph (1).
(3) WAIVER.—The Secretary of State may waive the requirement described in paragraph (3) if the Secretary determines it is vital to the interests of the United States to do so.

(4) MAY 16TH DETERMINATION.—The Secretary of State shall conduct an investigation described in paragraph (1) with respect to the attack involving Turkish security officials in Washington, D.C., on May 16, 2017.

(d) GUIDELINES ON DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall issue guidelines on the circumstances under which the Secretary shall request a waiver of diplomatic immunity for foreign security officials involved in the suppression of peaceful demonstrations in the United States. Such guidelines shall include the following:

(1) A description of the legal parameters regarding revocation of diplomatic immunity and the scope of immunity available to and typically granted to visiting security personnel.

(2) A description of the scope of immunity the Department of State seeks for United States security personnel escorting United States dignitaries in foreign countries, including members of the Secret
Service, Diplomatic Security Service of the Department, and other agencies.

(c) MAY 16TH INCIDENT.—

(1) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, shall submit to Congress a report on the attack involving Turkish security officials in Washington, D.C., on May 16, 2017. Such report shall include the following information:

(A) The identities of the foreign officials who participated in such attack.

(B) A determination of whether such officials had participated in a previous incident in front of the Brookings Institution on March 31, 2016, or at the United Nations General Assembly in New York in 2011.

(C) If the same officials were involved in both incidents, an assessment of why the Department of State granted visas to such officials to return to the United States.

(D) A description of the diplomatic follow up following the Brookings Institution incident, including any discussions with Turkish officials regarding acceptable parameters for security of-
ficials and consequences for failing to abide by lawful norms.

(E) A description of the steps the Department of State, in coordination with other Federal agencies, plans to take to remedy any security shortcomings identified during such incidents.

(2) **FINANCIAL COMPENSATION.**—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should support financial compensation from the Government of Turkey for the victims of the May 16, 2017, attack.