

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118-36
OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

At the end of subtitle B of title VII, insert the following new section:

1 **SEC. 7_. COMBATING OBESITY IN CERTAIN ARMED**
2 **FORCES.**

3 (a) STRATEGY AND EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
6 of Defense shall—

7 (A) develop a strategy to align the obesity-
8 related programs of the Department of Defense
9 with the classification of obesity as a medically
10 accepted disease; and

11 (B) conduct an educational campaign to
12 promote awareness, diagnosis, and treatment of
13 obesity as a disease in the covered Armed
14 Forces.

15 (2) REQUIREMENTS FOR STRATEGY.—The
16 strategy developed under paragraph (1)(A) shall in-
17 clude the following:

1 (A) A plan to coordinate obesity-related
2 programs across the Department of Defense to
3 treat obesity as a disease and reduce the preva-
4 lence of obesity in the covered Armed Forces.

5 (B) An assessment of the effectiveness of
6 health programs of the Department of Defense
7 that are intended to educate, prevent, or treat
8 obesity among members of the covered Armed
9 Forces, and a plan to modify or update such
10 programs to treat obesity as a disease.

11 (C) An assessment of the adequacy of nu-
12 trition education for physicians and other
13 health care practitioners in the military health
14 system to evaluate and treat obesity as a dis-
15 ease, including the need for any additional edu-
16 cation or guidelines for such physicians and
17 other health care practitioners.

18 (D) A strategy to work toward members of
19 the covered Armed Forces with obesity receiving
20 appropriate treatment.

21 (3) REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATIONAL CAM-
22 PAIGN.—The educational campaign conducted under
23 paragraph (1)(B) shall include the following:

24 (A) Information to educate members of the
25 covered Armed Forces regarding best practices

1 to prevent, reduce, or mitigate obesity, and
2 available resources to address the root causes of
3 obesity.

4 (B) Information targeted to physicians and
5 other health care practitioners in the military
6 health system to promote diagnosis and treat-
7 ment of obesity as a disease.

8 (4) CONSULTATION.—In developing the strat-
9 egy and educational campaign required by para-
10 graph (1), the Secretary of Defense shall consult
11 with the Secretary of Health and Human Services,
12 acting through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid
13 Services, and other Health and Human Services
14 agencies, as determined appropriate by the Secretary
15 of Health and Human Services.

16 (b) INCLUSION OF INFORMATION REGARDING
17 UNMET WEIGHT STANDARDS IN CERTAIN REPORTS.—
18 Beginning not later than 1 year after the date of the en-
19 actment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall include
20 information regarding unmet weight standards in any re-
21 port submitted by the Secretary to Congress regarding
22 disqualifications for enlistment in, disability incurred in,
23 or medical discharges from, the covered Armed Forces.

24 (c) ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE RE-
25 PORTS.—

1 (1) EFFECTS OF OBESITY ON READINESS OF
2 COVERED ARMED FORCES.—Not later than 1 year
3 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
4 retary of Defense, in consultation with the Adminis-
5 trator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Serv-
6 ices, shall submit to the appropriate congressional
7 committees a report regarding the effects of obesity
8 on the readiness of the covered Armed Forces. Such
9 report shall include legislative recommendations of
10 the Secretary to address such effects.

11 (2) EFFECTIVENESS OF OBESITY, FOOD, AND
12 NUTRITION-RELATED PROGRAMS OF DEPARTMENT
13 OF DEFENSE.—Not later than 1 year after the date
14 of the enactment of this Act, and annually there-
15 after, the Director of the Defense Health Agency
16 shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-
17 mittees a report on the effectiveness of the obesity,
18 food, and nutrition-related programs of the Depart-
19 ment of Defense in reducing obesity and improving
20 military readiness.

21 (d) GAO REPORT.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
23 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comp-
24 troller General of the United States shall submit to
25 the appropriate congressional committees a report

1 analyzing the existing obesity, food, and nutrition-re-
2 lated programs of the Department of Defense.

3 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The report required by
4 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

5 (A) An assessment of programs directed to
6 members of the covered Armed Forces.

7 (B) An assessment of programs directed to
8 health care providers in the military health sys-
9 tem.

10 (C) An assessment of the effectiveness of
11 such programs in reducing obesity and the im-
12 pact of obesity on military readiness.

13 (D) Recommendations to coordinate and
14 improve existing programs to reduce obesity
15 and the impact of obesity on military readiness.

16 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 (1) The term “appropriate congressional com-
18 mittees” means the following:

19 (A) The Committee on Armed Services of
20 the House of Representatives.

21 (B) The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of
22 the House of Representatives.

23 (C) The Committee on Ways and Means of
24 the House of Representatives.

1 (D) The Committee on Energy and Com-
2 merce of the House of Representatives.

3 (E) The Committee on Armed Services of
4 the Senate.

5 (F) The Committee on Veterans' Affairs of
6 the Senate.

7 (G) The Committee on Finance of the Sen-
8 ate.

9 (H) The Committee on Health, Education,
10 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

11 (2) The term "covered Armed Force" means
12 the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Space
13 Force.

