AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 115–23
OFFERED BY MR. CARBAJAL OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12. ASSESSMENT OF SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) In 1986, an interagency working group issued a report assessing “active measures” by the former Soviet Union against the United States.

(2) The working group concluded that “there is a massive and highly organized effort by the Soviet Union and its proxies to influence world opinion”.

(3) The working group further observed that “this effort includes public diplomacy to enhance the Soviet image abroad and . . . also includes a persistent, widespread program of disinformation and deception designed to discredit the U.S. image abroad and disrupt U.S. policy objectives.”.

(4) Active measures by the Russian Federation have shown no diminution since the last report issued by the working group in 1987, including—
(A) to undercut democratic processes and institutions in the United States and partner nations;

(B) to challenge the international liberal order; and

(C) to establish an unfettered sphere of influence.

(5) The Director of National Intelligence concluded in light of the Russian Federation’s hacking of the 2016 presidential election that “Russian efforts to influence the 2016 U.S. presidential election represent the most recent expression of Moscow’s longstanding desire to undermine the U.S.-led liberal democratic order.”

(6) The Russian Federation utilizes an array of military, cyber, intelligence, and economic tactics to weaken United States democratic institutions, divide Europe from the United States, divide Europe from within, undermine organizations such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union, and coerce partners to cooperate with Russia.

(7) Militarily, the Russian Federation forced the illegal occupation of Crimea in March 2014 and the invasion of Georgia in 2008.
(8) The Russian military continues to engage in acts of aggression and intimidation against United States allies across Europe.

(9) The Russian Federation’s subversive activities undermine trust in democratic systems, giving rise to political instability.

(b) ASSESSMENT OF SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.—

(1) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to Congress a report setting forth an assessment, obtained by the Secretaries for purposes of the report, of subversive activities by the Russian Federation.

(2) INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The assessment obtained for purposes of paragraph (1) shall be conducted by a federally funded research and development center (FFRDC), or another appropriate independent entity with expertise in diplomatic and military developments in Europe and the Russian Federation, selected by the Secretary for purposes of the assessment.
(B) USE OF PREVIOUS STUDIES.—The entity conducting the assessment may use and incorporate information from previous studies on matters appropriate to the assessment.

(3) ELEMENTS.—The assessment obtained for purposes of paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of disinformation and propaganda activities of the Russian Federation, including an assessment of—

(i) legal and financial support for disinformation and propaganda activities with respect to the United States and foreign countries;

(ii) the overall structure of the Russian Government’s disinformation and influence apparatus, including its defense and intelligence agencies and propaganda outlets; and

(iii) propaganda techniques, including forgery, use of media representatives and proxies, use of front organizations, and efforts to influence international organizations.
(B) An assessment of support by the Russian Federation for separatist activities and other aggressive actions aimed at undermining the sovereignty of foreign countries, particularly in Ukraine and the Baltic countries.

(C) An assessment of cyber intrusions by the Russian Federation to influence the infrastructure and democratic processes in the United States and other countries.

(D) An assessment of the use of energy exports by the Russian Federation for purposes of political or economic coercion.

(E) An assessment of suppressive democratic conditions in the Russian Federation, including—

(i) suppression of freedom of the press;

(ii) treatment of political activists and opposition leaders;

(iii) suppression of minority rights;

(iv) suppression of human rights; and

(v) efforts to undermine nongovernmental organizations and Russian civil society.
1 (4) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form,
2 but may include a classified annex.