AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118-10

OFFERED BY MS. CROCKETT OF TEXAS

At the end of subtitle J of title V, insert the following:

SEC. 5. REPORT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CERTAIN NEW POSITIONS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report that includes the appropriate job description, grade and rank, and number of new employees, as well as where such employees should be placed within the Department, to establish the following roles:

(1) The Military Spouse and Caregiver Employment and Retention Program Manager position, which shall be capable of fulfilling the following functions at the Department of Defense:

(A) Developing and implementing strategic plans and initiatives to support the employment and career development of military spouses and caregivers to drive military personnel retention.
(B) Advocating for policies and programs that promote the hiring, retention, and professional growth of military spouses and caregivers across the Department of Defense and the Federal Government.

(C) Identifying and securing resources, including funding, personnel, and technology, necessary for the successful implementation and sustainability of military spouse employment initiatives.

(D) Staying up-to-date on relevant legislation, regulations, and policies affecting military spouse and caregiver employment, Federal and otherwise.

(E) Partnering with Government agencies and non-federal entities (e.g. universities, think tanks, and non-profit advocacy organizations) on research and analysis to inform policy recommendations and program improvements.

(F) Coordinating with Executive Agencies to produce an annual Military Spouse Recruitment and Retention Report.

(G) In partnership with the Office of Personnel Management, developing and maintaining military spouse and caregiver annual train-
ing for human resources personnel and hiring managers.

(H) Representing the Department of Defense in meetings, conferences, and forums related to military spouse employment, sharing insights, experiences, and recommendations for improvement.

(I) Liaising with military ombudsmen to maintain awareness of issues negatively impacting federally-employed military spouses and those seeking Federal employment.

(J) Coordinating on casework cases with appropriate agency Veteran Employment Program Offices for review and resolution.

(K) Serving as the military spouse employment representative on the Interagency Council on Veterans Employment, assisting the President on improving training and employment opportunities for military spouses in the Federal Government.

(L) Demonstrating strong leadership, professionalism, and commitment to the well-being and success of military spouses, fostering an inclusive and supportive environment within the Joint Force.
(2) The Program Manager and Caseworker position, which shall be capable of fulfilling the following functions within each agency Veteran Employment Program Office:

(A) Working within each Veteran Employment Program Office to advocate for and assist military spouses employed by or seeking employment with the agency.

(B) Developing agency-specific operational plans for promoting retention intervention for military spouses and caregivers.

(C) Addressing casework responsibilities that involve assisting military spouses resolve problems with the agency.

(D) Assisting federally-employed military spouses with issues including—

   (i) retaining employment when navigating new Permanent Change of Station or other relocation orders;

   (ii) employer or State compliance with the Military Spouse Residency Relief Act; and

   (iii) Domestic Employee Teleworking Overseas (DETO) requests or appeals.
(E) Tracking and monitoring individual case progress, providing ongoing support and guidance throughout the casework process.

(F) Staying up-to-date on relevant legislation, regulations, and policies affecting military spouse employment; advocate for policy changes that support military spouse employment recruitment and retention.

(G) Compiling recruitment and retention data and coordinate with the Office of Personnel Management and the Office of the Secretary of Defense Program Manager on the production of an annual Military Spouse Recruitment and Retention Report.

(H) Generating reports and presentations on program outcomes and impact to inform decision-making and advocacy efforts.