

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT

118-36

OFFERED BY MR. CROW OF COLORADO

At the end of subtitle C of title XVIII, insert the following new section:

1 **SEC. 18__ . PILOT PROGRAM ON COLLECTING AND ANA-**
2 **LYZING DATA REGARDING CERTAIN VET-**
3 **ERAN SUICIDES.**

4 (a) PILOT PROGRAM.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
6 the date of the enactment of this section, the Sec-
7 retary of Veterans Affairs shall establish in the Of-
8 fice of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention a pilot
9 program under which the Secretary establishes a
10 working group in the Office to collect and analyze
11 data regarding on-campus suicides and on-campus
12 attempted suicides.

13 (2) WORKING GROUP.—

14 (A) MEMBERSHIP.—The members of the
15 working group established under paragraph (1)
16 shall be selected from among staff representing
17 each of the following:

1 (i) The Office of Mental Health and
2 Suicide Prevention.

3 (ii) The Veterans Health Administra-
4 tion.

5 (iii) The Veterans Benefits Adminis-
6 tration.

7 (iv) The National Cemeteries Admin-
8 istration.

9 (v) The Office of Operations, Secu-
10 rity, and Preparedness of the Department.

11 (vi) The National Patient Safety Cen-
12 ters of the Department.

13 (vii) Any other element of the Depart-
14 ment as the Secretary determines appro-
15 priate.

16 (B) REPORTING.—The working group shall
17 report directly to the Executive Director of the
18 Office of Mental Health and Suicide Preven-
19 tion.

20 (3) METHODOLOGY.—In collecting and ana-
21 lyzing the information under paragraph (1), the
22 working group shall—

23 (A) use root cause analysis to review all
24 on-campus suicides and on-campus attempted
25 suicides;

1 (B) with respect to on-campus suicides—

2 (i) conduct Behavioral Health Au-
3 topsy Program assessments, including fam-
4 ily interviews; and

5 (ii) document reasons for any defi-
6 ciencies in the data collected; and

7 (C) not less frequently than every 90 days,
8 communicate with the medical centers and field
9 offices of the Department in order to coordinate
10 the collection and review actions of the working
11 group with such actions carried out by the med-
12 ical centers and field offices.

13 (4) DATA COLLECTION INTAKE IMPROVE-
14 MENTS.—The working group shall consider, and
15 may implement for purposes of the pilot program
16 under paragraph (1), improvements to the process
17 by which the Secretary collects data on on-campus
18 suicides and on-campus attempted suicides to unify
19 the disparate sources of such data, including with
20 respect to—

21 (A) modifying incident reports and other
22 methods to collect data, including both suicide
23 and attempted suicide report fields;

24 (B) developing and ensuring that each
25 data source, including the Behavioral Health

1 Autopsy Program assessment, relating to on-
2 campus suicides and on-campus attempted sui-
3 cides include a specified section for such on-
4 campus incidents; and

5 (C) developing an associated management
6 system to consolidate all relevant data for on-
7 campus suicides and on-campus attempted sui-
8 cides, including such data from Behavioral
9 Health Autopsy Program assessments, health
10 records of the Department, root cause analyses,
11 incident reports, and other sources of data.

12 (5) BRIEFINGS.—Not later than one year after
13 the date of the enactment of this section, and annu-
14 ally thereafter during the life of the pilot program
15 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall provide to
16 the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of
17 Representatives and the Senate a briefing on the
18 progress and findings of the working group estab-
19 lished under such paragraph.

20 (6) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the
21 date on which the pilot program under paragraph
22 (1) is completed, the Secretary shall submit to the
23 Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of
24 Representatives and the Senate a report detailing—

1 (A) the effectiveness of the working group
2 established under such paragraph; and

3 (B) any recommendations to enhance the
4 data collection and management by the Sec-
5 retary with respect to on-campus suicides and
6 on-campus suicide attempts, including improve-
7 ments identified under paragraph (4).

8 (7) DURATION.—The Secretary shall carry out
9 the pilot program under paragraph (1) for a period
10 that is not less than two years.

11 (8) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

12 (A) The term “on-campus attempted sui-
13 cide” means an attempted suicide by a veteran
14 that occurs on property of the Department of
15 Veterans Affairs.

16 (B) The term “on-campus suicide” means
17 a suicide by a veteran that occurs on property
18 of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

19 (b) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Section 1709B of title 38,
20 United States Code, is amended—

21 (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
22 section (c);

23 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
24 lowing new subsection (b):

1 “(b) ON-CAMPUS SUICIDES.—On an annual basis,
2 the Secretary shall—

3 “(1) evaluate the statistical trends of suicides
4 and attempted suicides by veterans that occur on the
5 property of the Department; and

6 “(2) determine recommendations for preventing
7 such suicides and attempted suicides.”; and

8 (3) in subsection (c), as so redesignated—

9 (A) by redesignating paragraph (2) as
10 paragraph (3); and

11 (B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
12 following new paragraph (2):

13 “(2) Beginning with the report submitted in
14 2025, the matters under subsection (b), including
15 any other matters relating to such matters as the
16 Executive Director of the Office of Mental Health
17 and Suicide Prevention determines appropriate.”.

18 (c) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON THE OF-
19 FICE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
21 after the date of the enactment of this section, the
22 Comptroller General of the United States shall sub-
23 mit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the
24 House of Representatives and the Senate a report
25 on—

1 (A) the actions the Office of Mental Health
2 and Suicide Prevention of the Department of
3 Veterans Affairs has taken to meet the priority
4 objective of the Department with respect to pre-
5 venting veteran suicide;

6 (B) the challenges the Office has faced in
7 making such actions; and

8 (C) recommendations for improvements.

9 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report under paragraph
10 (1) shall include, with respect to the Office, an anal-
11 ysis of—

12 (A) staffing and resource levels;

13 (B) policies and processes;

14 (C) leadership structure and stability;

15 (D) identification and prioritization of ac-
16 tivities;

17 (E) organizational and reporting structure
18 within the Department; and

19 (F) any other matters the Comptroller
20 General determines appropriate.

