AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE TO
PRINT OF H.R. 5
OFFERED BY MR. CASTRO OF TEXAS

Page 5, line 2, after “title II” insert the following
“(except for part E)”.

Page 296, after line 7, insert the following:

(f) PART E.—Title II (20 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.) is fur-
ther amended by adding at the end the following:

“PART E—COLLEGE ADVISING PROGRAM

“SEC. 2501. PURPOSE.

“The purposes of this part are—

“(1) to encourage recent college graduates to
become college-access advisers in high-need sec-
ondary schools in the United States;

“(2) to serve school districts and communities
with a nationally-recruited corps of college-access ad-
visers; and

“(3) to increase the number of low-income,
first-generation, and under-represented students en-
tering institutions of higher education.
“SEC. 2502. GRANT PROGRAM.

“From the amounts appropriated pursuant to section 2505 of this part, the Secretary is authorized to award a 7-year grant to a nonprofit organization that provides near-peer college advisers who commit to work for 2 years as college-access advisers to help students in high-need secondary schools navigate the college admissions process.

“SEC. 2503. GRANT REQUIREMENTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the grant program under section 2502, the grantee shall use the grant funds provided under this part—

“(1) to provide highly-qualified, near-peer, college-access advisers to high-need secondary schools in urban and rural communities; and

“(2) to contribute to the cost of recruiting, selecting, training, and paying the salaries and benefits of college-access advisers.

“(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant authorized under this part, a nonprofit organization shall—

“(1) demonstrate at least 5 years experience in implementing and operating a near-peer college advising program in high-need secondary schools;

“(2) demonstrate at least 5 years experience in recruiting, selecting, training, and supporting national near-peer college advisers; and
“(3) have already established relationships with institutions of higher education in at least 10 different States to encourage, promote, and increase the number of under-served secondary school students applying and enrolling in institutions of higher education.

“(c) APPLICATION.—To receive a grant under this section, an eligible nonprofit organization shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including a description of the program to be carried out with the grant fund, including—

“(1) a description of type of secondary schools to be targeted;

“(2) the particular college-access needs of the schools that are not being met;

“(3) the resources available to meet such needs;

“(4) the strategy for sustaining and expanding program;

“(5) the method for tracking program data;

“(6) an outline of program objectives, including—

“(A) goals for serving all students in a school and creating a school-wide college going culture;
“(B) goals for increasing number of students completing the college admissions process;

“(C) goals for increasing number of students enrolling in institutions of higher education;

“(D) goals for increasing number of students applying for financial aid;

“(7) a description of plan to work with partner institutions to recruit and select high-quality recent graduates to serve as near-peer advisers; and

“(8) a description of activities, services, and training for advisers to be provided by the program.

“(d) REQUIREMENTS.—The grantee shall use funds under this part to carry out the following activities:

“(1) Recruiting and selecting college-access advisers through a highly-selective, national process.

“(2) Providing pre-service training to college-access advisors through a program that includes hands-on experience with the admissions and financial aid processes and significant exposure and training in data collection, access and success strategies, and familiarity with a variety of post-secondary school educational opportunities.

“(3) Placing college-access advisers in secondary schools designated by partner institutions of
higher education, in consultation with local educational agencies, as high-need secondary schools assisting under-served students.

“(4) Paying the salary and housing stipend based on the location of the placement, health insurance, and loan repayment assistance of college-access advisers.

“(5) Providing ongoing professional development activities for the college-access advisers during their placement, including frequent observations and feedback, and ongoing in-service training and support.

“(e) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—A grantee shall meet the following performance standards or be at risk of losing grant funding under this part:

“(1) An increase in school-wide college-going rates for schools served by advisers.

“(2) An increase in the number of students applying for and receiving financial aid at such schools.

“(3) An increase in the number of students visiting institutions of higher education at such schools.

“(4) An increase in the number of students registering for SAT or ACT exams at such schools.
“(5) An increase in the number of students participating in workshops, fairs, and other events related to postsecondary education at such schools.

“(f) LIMITATION.—The grantee shall use all grant funds received under this part to support activities related directly to the recruitment, selection, training, and support of college-access advisers, except that a certain amount of funds may be used for administrative costs in accordance with section 6.

“SEC. 2504. REPORTS AND EVALUATION.

“(a) ANNUAL REPORT.—The grantee shall provide the Secretary an annual report that includes—

“(1) data on the number and quality of the college-access advisers placed in high-need secondary schools through the grant under this part;

“(2) an externally conducted analysis of the satisfaction of local educational agencies and principals with the college access advisers provided;

“(3) data on the background, training, placement, and professional development of the college-access advisers; and

“(4) data on the number of students being served, the secondary school graduation rate of such students, the college enrollment rate of such students, and a data comparison with students from the
same region who were not served by college-access advisers.

“(b) Study.—

“(1) In general.—From funds appropriated pursuant to section 6, the Secretary shall provide for a study that examines the college enrollment rate of students counseled by college-access advisers under this part.

“(2) Requirements.—The Secretary shall provide for such a study not less than once every 3 years, and each study shall include participating secondary schools.

“(3) College enrollment rates compared.—The study shall compare, within the same secondary schools, the college enrollment rate of all students counseled by the college-access advisors provided for under this part with the college enrollment rate of all students who choose not to receive counseling from such college-access advisers provided.

“(4) Peer review standards.—Each study shall meet the peer review standards of the education research community and ensure that reviewers are practicing researchers who have expertise in program evaluation, quantitative and qualitative re-
search methods, statistics, college access programs, and counseling.

“(5) ADDITIONAL CRITERIA.—The study shall also examine the grantee’s impact on the students’ abilities to be academically, socially, and financially prepared to succeed at an institution of higher education.

“SEC. 2505. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The amount authorized to be appropriated to carry out this part shall not exceed—

“(1) $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2014;

“(2) $15,000,000 for fiscal year 2015; and

“(3) such sums as may be necessary for each of the 5 succeeding fiscal years.

“(b) LIMITATIONS.—The grantee shall not use more than 5 percent of Federal funds made available under this for administrative costs to carry out this part.

“SEC. 2506. DEFINITIONS.

“In this part:

“(a) COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATE.—The term ‘college enrollment rate’ means the percentage of secondary school graduates who enroll at institutions of higher education in the academic year following graduation from a secondary school.
“(b) GRANTEE.—The term ‘grantee’ means a non-profit organization that provides near-peer college advising to under-served secondary school students.

“(c) HIGH-NEED SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term ‘high-need secondary school’ means a secondary school in which at least 50 percent of the students enrolled in the school are—

“(1) eligible to receive a free or reduced-price lunch under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.);

“(2) eligible to be counted under section 1124(c); or

“(3) in families eligible for assistance under the State program funded under A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.).

“(d) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘non-profit organization’ means an organization exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of title 26, United States Code.

“(e) PARTNER INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ‘partner institution of higher education’ means an institution of higher education committed to increasing the number of low-income students, first-generation college students, and under-represented students who apply and enroll that shall—
“(1) have a 6-year graduation rate of at least 70 percent;

“(2) recruit graduates from such partner institution to serve as advisers for the grantee;

“(3) agree to a memorandum of understanding between the partner institution and the grantee; and

“(4) host at least one program director on campus to manage the day-to-day operations of the program, oversee adviser recruitment and supervision, maintain relationships with local secondary schools, manage the local program budget, and evaluate the program locally.”.