

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-****57****OFFERED BY MR. RODNEY DAVIS OF ILLINOIS**

At the end of title XVII, add the following:

1 **SECTION \_\_\_\_ . AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 46.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 303 of title 46, United  
3 States Code, is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating section 30308 as section  
5 30309; and

6 (2) by inserting after section 30307 the fol-  
7 lowing:

8 **“§ 30308. Death of a member of the Armed Forces**  
9 **from an accident on the high seas.**

10 “(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘non-  
11 pecuniary damages’ means damages for loss of care, com-  
12 fort, or companionship.

13 “(b) MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS.—In an action  
14 under this chapter, if the death of a member of the Armed  
15 Forces resulted from an accident occurring on the high  
16 seas beyond 12 nautical miles from the shore of the United  
17 States while the decedent was serving aboard a United  
18 States military vessel, the personal representative of the  
19 decedent may bring a civil action in admiralty or at law

1 against the person or vessel responsible. The action shall  
2 be for the exclusive benefit of the decedent's spouse, par-  
3 ent, child, dependent relative, or estate. Compensation is  
4 recoverable for nonpecuniary and pecuniary damages.

5 “(c) JURY TRIAL.—A claim under this section may  
6 be tried with a jury.

7 “(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
8 subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) shall apply to any death  
9 occurring after January 1, 2017.

10 “(e) GOVERNMENT IMMUNITY.—Nothing in this Act  
11 shall be construed to affect any existing laws or doctrines  
12 establishing governmental immunity from tort-based  
13 claims.”.

14 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis at the be-  
15 ginning of such chapter is amended—

16 (1) by redesignating the item relating to section  
17 30308 as the item relating to section 30309; and

18 (2) by inserting after the item relating to sec-  
19 tion 30307 the following:

“30308. Death of a member of the Armed Forces from an accident on the high  
seas.”.

