

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118-

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OFFERED BY MS. DE LA CRUZ OF TEXAS

At the end of subtitle C of title 18, add the following:

1 **SEC. 18___. GAO STUDY ON SYNTHETIC DRUGS TRAF-**
2 **FICKING.**

3 (a) **STUDY.**—The Comptroller General of the United
4 States shall carry out a study on illicit financing in con-
5 nection with the trafficking of synthetic drugs, including
6 fentanyl and methamphetamine, fentanyl- and meth-
7 amphetamine-related substances, Captagon, and fentanyl
8 and methamphetamine precursors, including—

9 (1) the business of the trafficking of synthetic
10 drugs and related illicit finance, such as the partici-
11 pation of transnational criminal organizations and
12 terror syndicates and their notable trafficking cor-
13 ridors, including source and transit countries;

14 (2) the business models used by these
15 transnational criminal organizations, including U.S.
16 domestic and foreign activities for precursor pur-
17 chase or production, movement along the supply

1 chain, manufacture of the completed product, mar-
2 keting, distribution, sales, and return of proceeds;

3 (3) the overlap of the business model of human
4 trafficking and the trafficking of synthetic drugs
5 and related illicit finance;

6 (4) the use of online illicit drug markets and
7 the use of social media for the marketing, sale, and
8 payment for synthetic drugs;

9 (5) financial methods used by such
10 transnational criminal organizations, including—

11 (A) payment;

12 (B) money laundering; and

13 (C) repatriation of proceeds;

14 (6) the use of social media applications like
15 Snap Chat, Discord, and Facebook and payment ap-
16 plications like CashApp to facilitate financial trans-
17 actions for synthetic drug trafficking, especially
18 among young people; and

19 (7) U.S. Government activities to combat illicit
20 finance related to the trafficking of synthetic drugs,
21 including—

22 (A) interagency collaboration, including
23 personnel detailed to other agencies to support
24 the effort to combat synthetic drugs trafficking
25 and related illicit finance;

1 (B) strategy, policy, plans, and programs
2 pertaining to Department of Defense Counter
3 Threat Finance activities, goals, and require-
4 ments as prescribed in the report titled the De-
5 partment of Defense Framework to Counter
6 Drug Trafficking and Other Illicit Threat Net-
7 works published May 2019;

8 (C) intergovernmental collaboration;

9 (D) intersectoral collaboration with the pri-
10 vate sector, including the business and non-gov-
11 ernmental communities; and

12 (E) identified gaps or resource deficiencies
13 in combating the trafficking of synthetic drugs
14 and related illicit finance in the coordination
15 and collaboration activities described in sub-
16 paragraphs (A) through (D).

17 (b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than the end of
18 the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of
19 this Act, the Comptroller General shall issue a report to
20 the Congress containing all findings and determinations
21 made in carrying out the study required under subsection
22 (a).

