Amendment to Rules Committee Print 118–10

Offered by Ms. Escobar of Texas

At the end of subtitle B of title XVIII, insert the following:

SEC. 18. REPORT ON GENDER DISPARITIES IN DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CLAIMS BASED ON PRESUMPTIONS OF SERVICE-CONNECTION.

Not later than May 1, 2024, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in coordination with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, where appropriate, shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on gender disparities in the approval by the Department of Veterans Affairs of claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary based on a presumption of service-connection. Such report shall address, for the five-year period preceding the date of the enactment of this Act, each of the following:

(1) The total number of claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary based
on a presumption of service-connection that were
filed during such period.

(2) The total number of such claims that were
approved.

(3) An evaluation of such claims filed by women
veterans, sorted by the condition for which there is
a presumption of service-connection, in percentages.

(4) An evaluation of such claims by women vet-
erans that were approved, sorted by the condition
for which there is a presumption of service-connec-
tion, in percentages.

(5) An evaluation of such claims filed by male
veterans, sorted by the condition for which there is
a presumption of service-connection, in percentages.

(6) An evaluation of such claims by male vet-
erans that were approved, sorted by the condition
for which there is a presumption of service-connec-
tion, in percentages.

(7) An assessment of such claims filed and such
claims approved where female reproductive cancer is
the condition for which there is a presumption of
service-connection, to reflect which reproductive can-
cers are most common in female veterans subjected
to toxic exposures.
(8) An assessment of such claims filed and such claims awarded where male reproductive cancer is the condition for which there is a presumption of service-connection, to reflect which reproductive cancers are most common in male veterans subjected to toxic exposures.

(9) A review of the current list of female reproductive cancer for which there is a presumption of service-connection compared to other harmful reproductive health outcomes that veterans may suffer due to toxic exposures.

(10) A review of harmful reproductive conditions for which there is no presumption of service-connection that—

(A) may be caused by toxic exposures; and

(B) may negatively affect the ability of a person to have children.

(11) Recommendations to expand the list of conditions for which there is a presumption of service-connection to further support the reproductive health of male and female veterans.