AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 118–10

OFFERED BY MS. ESHPOO OF CALIFORNIA

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

SEC. __. REPORT ON WAIVERS UNDER SECTION 907 OF THE

FREEDOM FOR RUSSIA AND EMERGING EUR-

ASIAN DEMOCRACIES AND OPEN MARKETS


(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following: —

(1) Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act

(22 U.S.C. 5812) prohibits the United States Gov-

ernment from providing security assistance to the


(2) Current law allows the Department of State

to waive section 907 only if it determines that the

waiver “will not undermine or hamper ongoing ef-

forts to negotiate a peaceful settlement between Ar-

menia and Azerbaijan or be used for offensive pur-

poses against Armenia.”.

(3) On June 21, 2022, the Department of State

extended the waiver of section 907 for the duration

of fiscal year 2023, the 20th consecutive year it has

done so.
(4) On September 12, 2022, Azerbaijan launched an unprovoked military invasion of the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia, killing more than 200 Armenian soldiers over the course of two days of fighting.

(5) Azerbaijan continues to occupy the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia in three provinces along the Armenia-Azerbaijan border.

(6) On December 12, 2022, Azerbaijan began restricting the free movement of people and goods through the Lachin corridor, the sole road connecting Nagorno Karabakh with Armenia, and thus the outside world.

(7) The obstruction of the Lachin corridor has continued for more than 200 days, depriving the population of Nagorno Karabakh of freedom of movement and restricting their access to food, medical supplies, and other necessities.

(8) On January 23, 2023, Secretary of State Antony Blinken told Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev that “the risk of a humanitarian crisis in the Lachin corridor undermined prospects for peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan,” according to a statement released by the Department of State.
(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the waiver of section 907 has emboldened the Government of Azerbaijan to violate human rights and international law with impunity, undermining ongoing efforts to negotiate a peaceful settlement between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

(e) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on United States security assistance provided to the Government of Azerbaijan pursuant to a waiver under section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act.

(d) ELEMENTS.—The report under subsection (b) shall address the following: —

(1) Documentation of the Department of State’s consideration of all section 907 waiver requirements during the 5-year period ending on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) Further program-level detail and end-use monitoring reports of security assistance provided to the Government of Azerbaijan under a section 907 waiver during such 5-year period.

(3) The impact of United States security assistance provided to Azerbaijan on the negotiation of a
peaceful settlement between Armenia and Azerbaijan over all disputed regions during such 5-year period.

(4) The impact of United States security assistance provided to Azerbaijan on the military balance between Azerbaijan and Armenia during such 5-year period.

(5) An assessment of Azerbaijan’s use of offensive force against Armenia or violations of Armenian sovereign territory from November 11, 2020, to the date of the enactment of this Act.

(e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.