

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 114-14
OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL OF NEW YORK AND MR.
ROYCE OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle C of title XII (page 570, after line 23), add the following:

1 **SEC. 12xx. REPORT TO ASSESS THE POTENTIAL EFFECTIVE-**
2 **NESS OF AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ES-**
3 **TABLISHMENT OF SAFE ZONES OR A NO-FLY**
4 **ZONE IN SYRIA.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
6 ings:

7 (1) March 2015 marked the fourth year of the
8 crisis in Syria, which has resulted in the world's
9 largest ongoing humanitarian disaster.

10 (2) Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and sup-
11 porting militias, including Hezbollah, continue to
12 carry out sectarian mass atrocities, which have in-
13 cluded mass targeted killings, mass graves, the ex-
14 termination of entire families, including their chil-
15 dren, incidents of ethnic cleansing, sexual violence,
16 widespread torture, aerial bombardment of residen-
17 tial areas, and forced displacement of certain Syrian
18 civilians especially from areas in western Syria

1 where Assad is attempting to increase the domi-
2 nance of his own loyalists.

3 (3) Approximately 220,000 people have been
4 killed, including thousands of children, many more
5 have been seriously wounded, and civilian casualties
6 continue to mount as widespread and systematic at-
7 tacks on schools, hospitals, and other civilian facili-
8 ties persist in violation of international norms and
9 principles.

10 (4) Assad's forces and supporting militias have
11 used air power to target Syrian civilians, including
12 the deployment of barrel bombs filled with explo-
13 sives, shrapnel, and chemical weapons.

14 (5) Assad's forces, supporting militias, and
15 other parties to the conflict are systematically block-
16 ing humanitarian aid delivery, including food and
17 medical care, from many civilian areas in violation
18 of international norms and principles.

19 (b) REPORT.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
21 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
22 of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of
23 State, shall submit to the specified congressional
24 committees a report that—

1 (A) assesses the potential effectiveness,
2 risks, and operational requirements of the es-
3 tablishment and maintenance of a no-fly zone
4 over part or all of Syria, including—

5 (i) the operational and legal require-
6 ments for United States and coalition air
7 power to establish a no-fly zone in Syria;

8 (ii) the impact a no-fly zone in Syria
9 would have on humanitarian and counter-
10 terrorism efforts in Syria and the sur-
11 rounding region;

12 (iii) the potential for force contribu-
13 tions from other countries to establish a
14 no-fly zone in Syria; and

15 (iv) the impact of the establishment of
16 a no-fly zone in Syria on the recipients of
17 training provided by section 1209 of the
18 National Defense Authorization Act for
19 Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113–291;
20 128 Stat. 3541); and

21 (B) assesses the potential effectiveness,
22 risks, and operational requirements for the es-
23 tablishment of one or more safe zones in Syria
24 for internally displaced people or for the facili-
25 tation of humanitarian assistance, including—

1 (i) the operational and legal require-
2 ments for United States and coalition
3 forces to establish one or more safe zones
4 in Syria;

5 (ii) the impact one or more safe zones
6 in Syria would have on humanitarian and
7 counterterrorism efforts in Syria and the
8 surrounding region;

9 (iii) the potential for contributions
10 from other countries and vetted non-state
11 actor partners to establish and maintain
12 one or more safe zones in Syria; and

13 (iv) the impact of the establishment of
14 one or more safe zones in Syria on the re-
15 cipients of training provided by section
16 1209 of the National Defense Authoriza-
17 tion Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law
18 113–291; 128 Stat. 3541).

19 (2) FORM.—The report required by paragraph
20 (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may
21 contain a classified annex if necessary.

22 (3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
23 “specified congressional committees” means—

24 (A) the congressional defense committees;
25 and

1 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
2 the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Af-
3 fairs of the House of Representatives.

