

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-

57

OFFERED BY MS. WEXTON OF VIRGINIA

Page 503, after line 22, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 724. STUDY OF SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS AMONG**

2 **MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND VET-**

3 **ERANS DURING THE COVID-19 PUBLIC**

4 **HEALTH EMERGENCY.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries shall conduct a

6 study on substance use disorders among the relevant pop-

7 ulation before and during the COVID-19 public health

8 emergency. The study shall include the following:

9 (1) Analysis of data about the relevant popu-

10 lation who overdosed from opioids or other illicit

11 substances during the public health emergency,

12 using appropriate control samples and comparing to

13 existing population data.

14 (2) Analysis of fatal opioid and other illicit sub-

15 stances overdose deaths among the relevant popu-

16 lation during the public health emergency, using ap-

17 propriate control samples and comparing to existing

18 population data.

1 (3) Analysis of the prevalence of alcohol use
2 disorder among the relevant population during the
3 public health emergency, using existing data to iden-
4 tify any new trends.

5 (4) Analysis of the association between overdose
6 deaths and suicide among the relevant population.

7 (5) An overview of the resources from relevant
8 Federal agencies, including the Department of De-
9 fense, the United States Department of Veterans Af-
10 fairs, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Serv-
11 ices Administration, the Centers for Disease Control
12 and Prevention, and the National Institutes of
13 Health, that were distributed to the relevant popu-
14 lation during the public health emergency, including
15 methods of dissemination.

16 (6) An analysis of the utilization of recovery
17 services and barriers to access the services at the
18 Veterans Health Administration and the Military
19 Health System by different modes of delivery, such
20 as telehealth, inpatient, outpatient, intensive out-
21 patient, and residential services, during the public
22 health emergency.

23 (7) Identification of key areas in which relevant
24 Federal agencies can improve their pandemic re-
25 sponse as it relates to substance use disorders and

1 overdoses among the relevant population, including
2 steps that can be taken to improve the preparedness
3 of the agencies for future public health emergencies
4 declared by the Secretary under section 319 of the
5 Public Health Service Act.

6 (b) REPORTS.—

7 (1) INTERIM REPORT.—Within 120 days after
8 the COVID-19 public health emergency ends, the
9 Secretaries shall submit to the appropriate commit-
10 tees an interim report that contains an update on
11 the status of the study required by subsection (a).

12 (2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years
13 after the COVID-19 public health emergency ends,
14 the Secretaries shall submit to the appropriate com-
15 mittees a final report that contains the results of the
16 study.

17 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES.—The term
19 “appropriate committees” means the Committee on
20 Armed Services and the Committee on Veterans’ Af-
21 fairs of the House of Representatives and the Com-
22 mittee on Armed Services and the Committee on
23 Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate.

24 (2) COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.—
25 The term “COVID-19 public health emergency”

1 means the public health emergency declared by the
2 Secretary of Health and Human Services on Janu-
3 ary 27, 2020, with respect to the 2019 Novel
4 Coronavirus.

5 (3) RELEVANT POPULATION.—The term “rel-
6 evant population” means members of the Armed
7 Forces and veterans.

8 (4) SECRETARIES.—The term “Secretaries”
9 means the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of
10 Veterans Affairs.

