AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115–70

OFFERED BY MR. FOSTER OF ILLINOIS

At the end of subtitle B of title XXXI, add the following new section:

SEC. 31. NUCLEAR FORENSICS ANALYSES.

(a) INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences for an independent assessment of nuclear forensic analyses conducted by the Federal Government.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The assessment conducted by the National Academy of Sciences shall, at minimum, include the following:

(1) An assessment of a representative sample of nuclear forensic analyses from across the Federal departments and agencies, with particular emphasis on the validity, quality, value, cost effectiveness, gaps, and timeliness of such analyses.

(2) An assessment of the methodologies used by nuclear forensics analyses from across the Federal
departments and agencies, including the scientific
rigor of such methodologies.

(3) Recommendations for improving nuclear
forensics analyses conducted by the Federal Government,
including any best practices or lessons learned
that should be shared across the Federal depart-
ments and agencies.

(c) Submission.—Not later than one year after the
date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy
shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
a report containing the assessment of the National Acad-
emy of Sciences under subsection (a).

(d) Briefing on Senior-level Involvement in
Exercises.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the
enactment of this Act, the President shall provide to the
appropriate congressional committees a briefing on the in-
volvement of senior-level executive branch leadership in re-
cent and planned nuclear terrorism preparedness or re-
response exercises, or any other exercise that have nuclear
forensic analysis as a component of the exercise.

(e) Appropriate Congressional Committees De-
defined.—In this section, the term “appropriate congress-
ional committees” means—

(1) the congressional defense committees; and
(2) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate.