

**AMENDMENT TO**  
**RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118-36**  
**OFFERED BY MR. GARBARINO OF NEW YORK**

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

1 **SEC. 35\_\_\_ . STUDY AND REPORT ON RECREATIONAL VES-**  
2 **SEL OPERATOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
4 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the depart-  
5 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating shall conduct  
6 a study and submit to the Committee on Transportation  
7 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and  
8 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
9 of the Senate a report regarding recreational vessel oper-  
10 ator training. The study and report shall include a review  
11 of—

12 (1) Coast Guard Auxiliary and Power Squadron  
13 training programs;

14 (2) existing State boating education programs,  
15 including programs by the National Association of  
16 State Boating Law Administrators (in this section  
17 referred to as “NASBLA”); and

1           (3) other hands-on training programs available  
2           to recreational vessel operators.

3           (b) INCLUDED SUBJECTS.—The study shall specifi-  
4 cally examine—

5           (1) course materials;

6           (2) course content;

7           (3) training methodology;

8           (4) assessment methodology; and

9           (5) relevancy of course content to risks for rec-  
10 reational boaters.

11          (c) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report under this  
12 section shall include—

13          (1) a section regarding steps the Coast Guard  
14 and NASBLA have taken to encourage States to  
15 adopt mandatory recreational vessel operator train-  
16 ing;

17          (2) an evaluation of the ability of the States to  
18 harmonize their education programs and testing pro-  
19 cedures;

20          (3) an analysis of the extent States have pro-  
21 vided reciprocity among the States for their respec-  
22 tive mandatory and voluntary education require-  
23 ments and programs;

24          (4) a section examining the level of uniformity  
25 of education and training between the States that

1 currently have mandatory education and training  
2 programs;

3 (5) a section outlining the minimum standards  
4 for education of recreational vessel operators;

5 (6) a section analyzing how a Federal training  
6 and testing program can be harmonized with State  
7 training and testing programs;

8 (7) an analysis of course content and delivery  
9 methodology for relevancy to risks for recreational  
10 boaters;

11 (8) a description of the current phase-in periods  
12 for mandatory boater education in State mandatory  
13 education programs and recommendation for the  
14 phase-in period for a mandatory boater education  
15 program including an evaluation as to whether the  
16 phase-in period affects course availability and cost;

17 (9) a description of the extent States allow for  
18 experienced boaters to bypass mandatory education  
19 courses and go directly to testing;

20 (10) recommendations for a bypass option for  
21 experienced boaters;

22 (11) a section analyzing how the Coast Guard  
23 would administer a Federal boating education, train-  
24 ing, and testing program; and

1           (12) an analysis of the extent to which a Fed-  
2           eral boating education, training, and testing pro-  
3           gram should be required for all waters of a State,  
4           including internal waters.

