AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117–47

OFFERED BY MR. GRIFFITH OF VIRGINIA

Add at the end the following new title:

TITLE IV—STUDY AND REPORT ON NATIONAL FOREST VOLUNTEERS

SEC. 401. STUDY AND REPORT ON NATIONAL FOREST VOLUNTEERS.

(a) Study.—The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, shall conduct a study on, with respect to each National Forest—

(1) during the 10-year period preceding the date of the enactment of this section, the amount of volunteer hours served at each such National Forest;

(2) the deferred maintenance backlog of each such National Forest;

(3) whether volunteers could carry out any projects under each such deferred maintenance backlog; and

(4) any barriers to increasing volunteer participation.
(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit a report to Congress that includes the results of the study required under subsection (a).

(c) VOLUNTEER DEFINED.—In this section, the term “volunteer”—

(1) means an individual who volunteers at a National Forest, including through an agreement between a local government and the Secretary of Agriculture; and

(2) does not include, with respect to activities carried out on National Forest System land—

(A) an individual who is compensated with respect to such activities; or

(B) an individual who carries out such activities pursuant to participation in—

(i) the Youth Conservation Corps established under title I of Public Law 91–378 (16 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.);

(ii) the Public Lands Corps established under title II of Public Law 91–378 (16 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.);

(iii) a Job Corps program established under subtitle C of title I of the Workforce
Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3191 et seq.); or (iv) AmeriCorps.