

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-

33

OFFERED BY MR. HAMADEH OF ARIZONA

At the end of subtitle D of title I, add the following
new section:

1 **SEC. 1__ . REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO DIVESTMENT,**
2 **PRESERVATION, AND INVENTORIES OF A-10**
3 **AIRCRAFT.**

4 (a) **LIMITATION ON DIVESTMENT OF A-10 AIR-**
5 **CRAFT.—**

6 (1) **LIMITATION.—**None of the funds authorized
7 to be appropriated by this Act or otherwise made
8 available for fiscal year 2027 for the Department of
9 Defense may be obligated or expended to retire, di-
10 vest, or place in storage any A-10 aircraft in a man-
11 ner that would reduce the total A-10 inventory, in-
12 cluding combat-coded, training-coded, test-coded,
13 and backup aircraft, below the level necessary to
14 sustain operational employment, pilot production,
15 operational test, and demonstration requirements
16 through fiscal year 2030.

17 (2) **MINIMUM INVENTORY REQUIREMENT AND**
18 **FLEET COMPOSITION.—**

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—In fiscal year 2027 and
2 each subsequent fiscal year, the Secretary of
3 the Air Force shall maintain in the inventory of
4 the Air Force the greater of—

5 (i) 126 A–10 aircraft; or

6 (ii) such higher number of A–10 air-
7 craft as the Secretary determines appro-
8 priate.

9 (B) FLEET COMPOSITION.—The A–10 air-
10 craft fleet, as described in subparagraph (A),
11 shall consist of not fewer than—

12 (i) four active units operating under a
13 designed operational capability statement
14 and Ready Aircrew Program tasking
15 memorandum in which close air support,
16 forward air controller-airborne, and combat
17 search and rescue support, including the
18 Sandy mission, are primary missions; or

19 (ii) five units drawn from the active
20 duty, Air National Guard, or Air Force
21 Reserve operating under designed oper-
22 ational capability statements and Ready
23 Aircrew Program tasking memorandums in
24 which close air support, forward air con-
25 troller-airborne, and combat search and

1 rescue support, including the Sandy mis-
2 sion, are primary missions.

3 (3) PROHIBITION ON PRESUMPTIVE REDUC-
4 TIONS.—None of the funds authorized to be appro-
5 priated by this Act or otherwise made available for
6 fiscal year 2027 or any subsequent fiscal year for
7 the Department of Defense may be obligated or ex-
8 pended to reduce, eliminate, deactivate, or fail to re-
9 store unit personnel, pilot training capacity, oper-
10 ational test capacity, depot maintenance capacity, or
11 weapon system sustainment activities for A–10 air-
12 craft in a manner that presumes future congres-
13 sional authority to divest such aircraft.

14 (4) RECONSTITUTION OF PREVIOUSLY RE-
15 DUCED CAPACITY.—With respect to any instance oc-
16 ccurring after October 1, 2025, and before the date
17 of the enactment of this Act, in which the Depart-
18 ment of the Air Force reduced, eliminated, deacti-
19 vated, or transferred depot maintenance capacity,
20 sustainment functions, training functions, or oper-
21 ational test functions for the A–10 fleet in anticipa-
22 tion of divestment or planned retirement of such air-
23 craft, the Secretary of the Air Force shall, not later
24 than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this
25 Act, submit to the congressional defense committees

1 a plan to restore or reconstitute sufficient capacity
2 to carry out this section and maintain the oper-
3 ational viability of the A-10 fleet through fiscal year
4 2030.

5 (b) CERTIFICATION OF FULLY CAPABLE REPLACE-
6 MENT BEFORE FURTHER DIVESTMENT OF A-10 AIR-
7 CRAFT.—

8 (1) CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary
9 of Defense may waive one or more of the require-
10 ments under subsection (a) with respect to a fiscal
11 year only if the Secretary certifies to the congres-
12 sional defense committees that a fully capable re-
13 placement for the A-10 aircraft fleet has achieved
14 full operational capability.

15 (2) ELEMENTS.—The certification required
16 under subsection (a) shall include the following:

17 (A) A determination that the replacement
18 aircraft or combination of systems—

19 (i) is operationally fielded and avail-
20 able for tasking;

21 (ii) includes the qualified pilots, main-
22 tainers, and support personnel necessary to
23 perform the missions currently assigned to
24 the A-10 fleet and to satisfy the require-
25 ments of clauses (iv) and (v);

1 (iii) includes the training,
2 sustainment, depot, and infrastructure ca-
3 pacity necessary to support continued oper-
4 ations;

5 (iv) is capable of performing combat
6 search and rescue support, including the
7 Sandy mission and Rescue Mission Com-
8 mander role, forward air controller-air-
9 borne, close air support, personnel recovery
10 support, and armed overwatch at a level
11 necessary to satisfy the documented re-
12 quirements of supported forces in oper-
13 ational plans, taskings, and the concu-
14 rrence required under subparagraph (E);

15 (v) has demonstrated the ability to
16 provide persistent armed overwatch, air-
17 ground integration, and survivability char-
18 acteristics appropriate to the missions for
19 which the A-10 is currently employed.

20 (B) A detailed crosswalk identifying the
21 specific aircraft, systems, units, or combinations
22 thereof that the Secretary of Defense deter-
23 mines will replace the principal operational ef-
24 fects historically provided by the A-10 fleet.
25 The crosswalk shall address, at a minimum—

1 (i) combat search and rescue support,
2 including the Sandy mission and Rescue
3 Mission Commander role;

4 (ii) forward air controller-airborne
5 functions;

6 (iii) close air support persistence and
7 responsiveness for forces in contact;

8 (iv) armed overwatch and air-ground
9 integration in dynamic land and maritime
10 targeting environments;

11 (v) survivability and mission effective-
12 ness in the operational environments for
13 which the A-10 is currently employed; and

14 (vi) the training, sustainment, and
15 manning structure necessary to generate
16 and employ such replacement capability.

17 (C) A cost-comparison and mission de-
18 mand analysis that weighs the cost per oper-
19 ational hour and demands on other airframes
20 and personnel to fill the A-10 mission set
21 versus such costs and demands assuming the
22 continued employment of A-10 aircraft.

23 (D) An outline of the steps and timeline
24 for the hand-off of A-10 missions and any
25 plans to create, adapt, and train on those mis-

1 sions and close air support, combat search and
2 rescue, and rescue mission commander func-
3 tions and doctrines.

4 (E) The written concurrence of—

5 (i) the Secretary of the Army, with re-
6 spect to whether the replacement aircraft
7 or combination of systems is sufficient to
8 meet the Army's requirements for the A-
9 10 mission set;

10 (ii) the Secretary of the Navy, acting
11 through the Commandant of the Marine
12 Corps, with respect to whether the replace-
13 ment aircraft or combination of systems is
14 sufficient to meet the Marine Corps re-
15 quirements for the A-10 mission set, in-
16 cluding tactical recovery of aircraft and
17 personnel requirements; and

18 (iii) the Commander of United States
19 Special Operations Command, with respect
20 to whether the replacement aircraft or
21 combination of systems is sufficient to sup-
22 port special operations requirements for
23 the A-10 mission set; and

24 (F) From each official specified in sub-
25 paragraph (E), a written determination as to

1 whether the replacement aircraft or combina-
2 tion of systems is sufficient to support combat
3 search and rescue support, including the Sandy
4 mission and Rescue Mission Commander role,
5 where applicable to the supported force.

6 (3) TREATMENT OF REPLACED MISSIONS.—For
7 purposes of paragraph (2), a mission may not be
8 treated as replaced merely because it is listed as a
9 secondary, collateral, or additional mission of a plat-
10 form or unit whose designed operational capability
11 statement or Ready Aircrew Program tasking memo-
12 randum is principally oriented toward a primary
13 mission.

14 (4) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days before
15 submitting a certification under subsection (a), the
16 Secretary of Defense shall provide to the congress-
17 sional defense committees a briefing on the basis
18 and findings of such certification.

19 (c) PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN RETIRED A-10 AIR-
20 CRAFT FOR RECOVERABILITY, CONTINGENCY USE, AND
21 POTENTIAL FOREIGN MILITARY TRANSFER.—

22 (1) PRESERVATION REQUIREMENT.—Except as
23 provided in paragraph (6), the Secretary of the Air
24 Force shall preserve each covered A-10 aircraft re-
25 tired during or after fiscal year 2027 in a condition

1 that enables such aircraft to be reconstituted for
2 operational use, contingency use, training, testing,
3 heritage demonstration, or transfer to an eligible
4 foreign partner.

5 (2) MINIMUM PRESERVATION STANDARD.—The
6 Secretary of the Air Force shall ensure that each
7 covered A-10 aircraft preserved under paragraph
8 (1)—

9 (A) is maintained in a recoverable storage
10 condition;

11 (B) retains all major systems, mission
12 equipment, and structural components nec-
13 essary to permit return to service, reconstitu-
14 tion for training or operational use, or prepara-
15 tion for transfer to an eligible foreign partner;

16 (C) is not demilitarized, mutilated, or oth-
17 erwise altered in a manner that would unrea-
18 sonably impair its recoverability or future
19 transferability;

20 (D) retains, to the maximum extent prac-
21 ticable, records relating to flying hours, service
22 life consumption, structural condition, modifica-
23 tions, maintenance history, and combat or oper-
24 ational use; and

1 (E) remains identifiable by tail number
2 and preservation status in the inventory and
3 storage records of the Department of the Air
4 Force.

5 (3) PROHIBITION ON CANNIBALIZATION AND
6 PARTING OUT.—Except as provided in paragraph
7 (6), no covered A-10 aircraft preserved under this
8 subsection may be cannibalized, parted out, or used
9 as a source of spare parts if such aircraft—

10 (A) has received wing replacement or serv-
11 ice-life extension modifications;

12 (B) retains projected flying hours exceed-
13 ing the threshold specified in paragraph (9)(B);
14 or

15 (C) has been identified by the Secretary of
16 the Air Force as a viable candidate for recon-
17 stitution, contingency activation, foreign mili-
18 tary sale, foreign military financing-supported
19 transfer, or other security cooperation purpose.

20 (4) LIMITATION ON FINAL INDUCTION OR IRRE-
21 VERSIBLE PROCESSING PENDING ROADMAP.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—Until the date on which
23 the Secretary of the Air Force submits to the
24 congressional defense committees a roadmap for
25 the sustainment of the A-10 aircraft fleet and

1 related capabilities, none of the funds author-
2 ized to be appropriated by this Act or otherwise
3 made available for fiscal year 2027 or any sub-
4 sequent fiscal year for the Department of De-
5 fense may be obligated or expended—

6 (i) to place any retired or retiring A-
7 10 aircraft into a storage, reclamation, ex-
8 cess, or disposal status at the 309th Aero-
9 space Maintenance and Regeneration
10 Group in a manner that would materially
11 impair the recoverability, reconstitution,
12 training use, testing use, heritage dem-
13 onstration use, or potential foreign trans-
14 fer of such aircraft, including placement
15 into any category of storage or processing
16 that is equivalent in effect to nonrecover-
17 able reclamation, excess disposal, or broad
18 parts-harvest status; or

19 (ii) to take any other covered action
20 with respect to an A-10 aircraft.

21 (B) COVERED ACTIONS.—For purposes of
22 subparagraph (A), a covered action includes—

23 (i) categorization of an A-10 aircraft
24 in a manner equivalent to parts reclama-
25 tion or excess disposal status;

1 (ii) downgrading an A-10 aircraft
2 from a recoverable or inviolate storage sta-
3 tus;

4 (iii) demilitarization, mutilation, or
5 cannibalization of an A-10 aircraft;

6 (iv) removal of major systems, mission
7 equipment, structural components, or other
8 items in a manner that would materially
9 reduce the future utility of the aircraft; or

10 (v) any other induction, storage, or
11 processing decision that presumes disposal,
12 reclamation, or nonrecoverable status be-
13 fore completion of the roadmap required
14 under subparagraph (A).

15 (C) TEMPORARY CUSTODY AND RECOVER-
16 ABLE STORAGE PENDING ROADMAP.—Nothing
17 in this paragraph shall be construed to prohibit
18 temporary custody, movement, inspection, pres-
19 ervation, or placement of an A-10 aircraft into
20 a recoverable storage condition pending submis-
21 sion of the roadmap required under subpara-
22 graph (A). During the period described in such
23 subparagraph, any A-10 aircraft transferred to
24 the 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regen-
25 eration Group shall, to the maximum extent

1 practicable, be maintained only in a recoverable
2 storage status and may not be processed into a
3 reclamation or excess disposal status.

4 (D) ROADMAP.—The roadmap required
5 under subparagraph (A) shall include, at a min-
6 imum, a contingency plan for keeping the total
7 A–10 inventory at the level necessary to sustain
8 operational employment, pilot production, oper-
9 ational test, and demonstration requirements
10 through fiscal year 2037. Such plan shall in-
11 clude—

12 (i) identified decision points; and

13 (ii) an assessment of the cost and re-
14 constitution impacts that would result if
15 the Secretary of the Air Force retroactively
16 decided to reconstitute and sustain the A–
17 10 aircraft mission following its termi-
18 nation.

19 (5) PRIORITY FOR ARIZONA STORAGE AND
20 RECOVERABILITY.—To the maximum extent prac-
21 ticable, the Secretary of the Air Force shall preserve
22 covered A–10 aircraft required to be retained under
23 this section at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ari-
24 zona, or at another facility capable of maintaining
25 such aircraft in recoverable storage status.

1 (6) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary of the Air
2 Force may waive the requirements of paragraphs (1)
3 through (5) with respect to a specific covered A–10
4 aircraft only if the Secretary certifies in writing to
5 the congressional defense committees that—

6 (A) the aircraft is no longer airworthy or
7 structurally viable for economical recovery,
8 training use, testing use, heritage use, or for-
9 eign transfer;

10 (B) the aircraft is not reasonably required
11 for contingency reserve capacity, training sup-
12 port, operational testing, heritage demonstra-
13 tion, or security cooperation purposes; and

14 (C) disposal or cannibalization of the air-
15 craft will not materially reduce the Depart-
16 ment’s ability to reconstitute A–10 capacity,
17 preserve representative aircraft with significant
18 remaining service life, or support a potential
19 foreign military transfer or sale.

20 (7) REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after
21 the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually
22 thereafter through September 30, 2030, the Sec-
23 retary of the Air Force shall submit to the congres-
24 sional defense committees a report on covered A–10
25 aircraft. Each report shall include—

1 (A) the number of aircraft retired, stored,
2 preserved, cannibalized, transferred, or disposed
3 of during the preceding year;

4 (B) the number of preserved aircraft that
5 received wing replacement or wing upgrade
6 modifications;

7 (C) the projected remaining flying hours of
8 each preserved aircraft, or by category if nec-
9 essary for security or administrative reasons;

10 (D) the status of preservation and
11 recoverability actions for each such aircraft;

12 (E) any aircraft assessed as viable can-
13 didates for foreign military sale, transfer, train-
14 ing use, operational test use, or contingency ac-
15 tivation; and

16 (F) any waiver exercised under paragraph
17 (6), including the justification for such waiver.

18 (G) the tail numbers, current location, and
19 current storage or preservation status of all A-
20 10 aircraft that, as of the date of the enact-
21 ment of this Act, are retired, retiring, trans-
22 ferred to, or pending transfer to the 309th
23 Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration
24 Group;

1 (H) identification of which such aircraft
2 have received wing replacement or wing up-
3 grade modifications;

4 (I) identification of which such aircraft are
5 assessed as retaining projected flying hours ex-
6 ceeding the threshold specified in paragraph
7 (9)(B); and

8 (J) identification of which such aircraft are
9 assessed as viable candidates for reconstitution,
10 contingency activation, training use, test use,
11 heritage demonstration, or foreign military sale
12 or transfer.

13 (8) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this
14 subsection shall be construed to require the Sec-
15 retary of the Air Force to return any aircraft to ac-
16 tive service or to transfer any aircraft to a foreign
17 country in violation of other applicable provisions of
18 law, export control requirements, end-use monitoring
19 requirements, or national security considerations.

20 (9) COVERED A-10 AIRCRAFT DEFINED.—In
21 this subsection, the term “covered A-10 aircraft”
22 means an A-10 aircraft that, as of the date on
23 which the aircraft is proposed for retirement, trans-
24 fer, or placement into storage—

1 (A) has received wing replacement or wing
2 upgrade modifications intended to extend the
3 service life of the aircraft;

4 (B) retains not fewer than 1,500 projected
5 flying hours of remaining service life, as deter-
6 mined by the Secretary of the Air Force using
7 the most current structural and airworthiness
8 data available; or

9 (C) is assessed by the Secretary of the Air
10 Force, in consultation with the Secretary of De-
11 fense, as a viable candidate for reconstitution,
12 contingency activation, security cooperation use,
13 foreign military sale, or transfer under the
14 Arms Export Control Act or any other provision
15 of law.

