AMENDMENT TO
RULERS COMMITTEE PRINT 117–31
OFFERED BY MRS. HAYES OF CONNECTICUT

At the end of title III of division B, add the following:

SEC. 10310. HANDS-ON LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN STEM EDUCATION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ESEA TERMS.—The terms “elementary school”, “high school”, “secondary school”, and “State” have the meanings given the terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(2) ELIGIBLE NONPROFIT PROGRAM.—The term “eligible nonprofit program”—

(A) means a nonprofit program serving prekindergarten, elementary school, or secondary school students; and

(B) includes a program described in sub-paragraph (A) that covers the continuum of education from prekindergarten through high school and is available in every State.
(3) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

(4) **STEM.**—The term “STEM” means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

(b) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of this section are to—

(1) provide effective, compelling, and engaging means for teaching and reinforcing fundamental STEM concepts and inspiring the youth of the United States to pursue careers in STEM-related fields;

(2) expand the STEM workforce pipeline by developing and training students for careers in United States STEM fields; and

(3) broaden participation in the STEM workforce by underrepresented population groups.

(c) **PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director shall, subject to the availability of appropriations for such purposes, make awards to eligible nonprofit programs for supporting hands-on learning opportunities in STEM education, including via after-school activities and innovative learning opportunities such as robotics competitions and for the purposes of evaluating
the impact of such programs on STEM learning and disseminating the results of such evaluations.

(2) PRIORITY.—In making awards under the program, the Director shall give priority to eligible nonprofit programs serving students that attend elementary schools or secondary schools (including high schools) that—

(A) are implementing comprehensive support and improvement activities or targeted support and improvement activities under paragraph (1) or (2) of section 1111(d) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(d)); or

(B) serve high percentages of students who are eligible for a free or reduced price lunch under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) (which, in the case of a high school, may be calculated using comparable data from the schools that feed into the high school).