

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-8
OFFERED BY MS. HOULAHAN OF PENNSYLVANIA**

At the end of subtitle J of title V add the following
new section:

1 **SEC. 5 ____ . PILOT PROGRAM FOR PUSH-TEXT NOTIFICA-**
2 **TIONS TO MEMBERS AND DEPENDENTS.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than one year after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
5 Defense shall establish a pilot program to be known as
6 the “Push-Text Initiative” (in this section referred to as
7 the “pilot program”) to provide members of the Armed
8 Forces assigned to Marine Corps Installations Pacific in
9 Okinawa, Japan, and the adult dependents of such mem-
10 bers with timely and relevant information via text mes-
11 sage.

12 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The pilot program shall—
13 (1) automatically enroll all eligible members of
14 the Armed Force assigned to the locations partici-
15 pating in the pilot program and the dependents of
16 such members using all available text messaging
17 contact information provided by such members; and

1 (2) provide all recipients with the ability to opt
2 out of receiving text messages under the pilot pro-
3 gram at any time.

4 (c) COVERED INFORMATION.—Text messages trans-
5 mitted under the pilot program shall include—

6 (1) information on military spouse employment
7 opportunities, career counseling, and related support
8 programs;

9 (2) updates with respect to childcare services
10 available both on and off the installation, availability
11 of child care, and child care fee assistance programs;

12 (3) information regarding general TRICARE
13 program benefits, enrollment deadlines, and other
14 health-related resources;

15 (4) notifications of changes in Department of
16 Defense policies, regulations, or Federal laws that
17 affect members or dependents of members; and

18 (5) any other information or resources that the
19 Secretary considers relevant to the well-being of
20 members and dependents of members.

21 (d) REPORT.—Not later than October 1, 2027, the
22 Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on
23 Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representa-
24 tives a report on the pilot program. Such report shall in-
25 clude—

1 (1) a description of how the pilot program was
2 implemented, including the timeline, execution plan,
3 and the official managing the pilot program;

4 (2) data on participation and usage, including
5 the number of individuals automatically enrolled, the
6 opt-out rate, and the frequency and types of mes-
7 sages transmitted;

8 (3) any observed benefits or outcomes of the
9 pilot program, including feedback from participants;

10 (4) an analysis of the costs of operating the
11 pilot program and any cost savings or efficiencies
12 achieved by consolidating or scaling back other out-
13 reach efforts with respect to issues addressed by the
14 pilot program; and

15 (5) the recommendations of the Secretary with
16 respect to the feasibility and advisability of con-
17 tinuing or expanding the pilot program to the entire
18 Department of Defense, including any proposed
19 modifications to the program and an assessment of
20 the anticipated costs, resource requirements, and po-
21 tential benefits of Department-wide implementation.

