AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–57
OFFERED BY MR. HUDSON OF NORTH CAROLINA

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

SEC. 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE ARMED OVERWATCH PROGRAM.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following—

(1) The budget request of the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2021 included requests for $101,000,000 for procurement, Defense-wide and $5,000,000 for research, development, test and evaluation, Defense-wide for the Armed Overwatch program of the United States Special Operations Command.

(2) Congress supports the Armed Overwatch Program but has serious concerns about its readiness to move immediately into procurement, as requested in the budget, and recommends $53,000,000 million, a reduction of $48,000,000 million, for aircraft procurement.

(3) Program funding should be used to procure and evaluate aircraft prototypes only after the Sec-
retary of Defense and Commander of United States
Special Operations Command have submitted to the
congressional defense committees the certifications,
requirements, and analyses required under section
134.

(4) It is expected that the Armed Overwatch
Program will ultimately provide a self-deployable
and sustainable manned airborne platform that can
provide multi-mission capabilities in austere and per-
missive environments to elements of special oper-
ations forces that currently lack those capabilities.

(5) Congress has made a significant multi-year
investment in manned airborne intelligence, surveil-
ance and reconnaissance for the national mission
force. This investment has yielded capabilities be-
yond those planned or achievable by the Armed
Overwatch program and an aircraft fleet that is sus-
tainable for more than decade into the future.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
gress that—

(1) the Armed Overwatch Program is additive
and complementary to currently fielded manned air-
borne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance
systems that support the Joint Special Operations
Command;
(2) given the continued high demand for these current systems and their remaining service life, Congress urges the United States Special Operations Command to request full funding for system upgrades across the future years defense program; and

(3) Congress opposes any plan to prematurely retire any such systems.