AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115–23

OFFERED BY MR. HUDSON OF NORTH CAROLINA

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

SEC. 1. LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR THE ENHANCED MULTI MISSION PARACHUTE SYSTEM.

(a) LIMITATION.—None of the funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2018 for the enhanced multi mission parachute system may be used to enter into, or to prepare to enter into, a contract for the procurement of such parachute system until the date on which the Secretary of the Navy submits to the congressional defense committees the certification described in subsection (b) and the report described in subsection (c).

(b) CERTIFICATION.—The certification described in this subsection is a certification by the Secretary of the Navy that—

(1) neither the Marine Corps’ currently fielded enhanced multi mission parachute system nor the
Army’s RA–1 parachute system meet the Marine Corps requirements;

(2) the Marine Corps’ PARIS, Special Application Parachute does not meet the Marine Corps requirements;

(3) the testing plan for the enhanced multi mission parachute system meets all regulatory requirements; and

(4) the Department of the Navy has performed an analysis and determined that a high glide canopy parachute system is not more prone to malfunctions than the currently fielded free fall parachute systems.

(e) REPORT.—The report described in this subsection is a report that includes—

(1) an explanation of the rationale for using the Parachute Industry Association specification normally used for sports parachutes that are employed from relatively slow flying civilian aircraft at altitudes below 10,000 feet for a military parachute;

(2) an inventory and cost estimate for any new equipment and training that the Marine Corps will have to be acquire in order to employ a high glide parachute;
(3) an explanation of why the Department of the Navy is conducting a paper down select and not conducting any testing until first article testing; and

(4) a discussion of the risk assessment for high glide canopies, and specifically how the Department of the Navy is mitigating the risk for malfunctions experienced in other high glide canopy programs.